BREAKING THE ICE: Weather is just a starting point for small talk | Page 11

express



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Weekend



Kyson, 11 months, was found amid tornado debris.

Survivor: Baby's rescue gives hope to victims of tornados | **4**

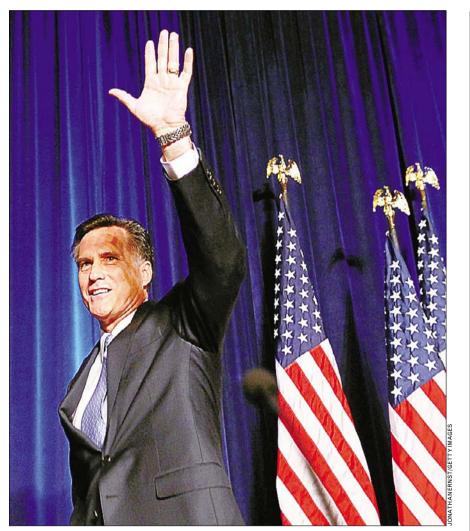
Smoking Study: Tobacco may kill 1 billion this century | **5**



The Hot Shot: Caps' Ovechkin makes his case for MVP | 12



WRIST CONNECTIONS ARM YOURSELF FOR SPRING WITH A HIP CUFF BRACELET | STYLES



Romney Drops Presidential Bid

'1... NOW STAND ASIDE': Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney waves after announcing the suspension of his presidential campaign in Washington on Thursday. Romney said he was giving up his bid for the White House to ensure the Republican Party would be united heading into this summer's convention in St. Paul, Minn. Almost over: McCain all but seals GOP nomination | Page 3

Stimulus Plan OK'd In Senate

Lawmakers approve rebates for seniors, disabled veterans

WASHINGTON | The Senate passed an economic rescue plan Thursday that would speed \$600 to \$1,200 in rebates to most taxpayers and \$300 checks to low-income people, including disabled veterans and the elderly.

The 81-16 vote capped more than a week of political maneuvering that ended only when majority Democrats dropped their demand that the proposal offer jobless benefits, heating aid for the poor and tax breaks for certain industries. GOP senators blocked those ideas, but agreed to add the rebates for older people and disabled veterans to a \$161 billion measure the House passed last month.

House leaders were expected to act as early as Thursday night to send the measure to President Bush. If the House were to follow suit as expected and President Bush shortly thereafter signs the measure, the rebate checks would be expected to begin arriving in May. The rebates would be based on 2007 tax returns.

"It's our responsibility to pass the strongest bill that we can, and so I think it's tremendous what we'll be able to accomplish," said Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev. "We had to finish this quickly." (AP)

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WHICH DEMOCRAT HAS A BETTER CHANCE OF BEATING MCCAIN IN NOVEMBER? (8) CLINTON (9) OBAMA



50 38



SATURDAY 54 36



SUNDAY **38** | **25**

eye Openers

INSURANCE

Geico Not on His Side

They say problem gamblers never quit while they're ahead, and one properly insured Oregon man apparently didn't, either. Authorities recovered a stelon antique slot machine.

a stolen antique slot machine worth \$4,000 and arrested the man, who they said asked his wife to help file an insurance claim to cover damage done to his van during the heist. The slot machine was reported stolen in a burglary Monday night in Sutherlin, Ore. The victim's housekeeper—the wife of the thief, who told her the vehicle had been vandalized — filed a police report a day earlier claiming someone had thrown a piece of sheet metal through the window of her parked van. (AP)

LIGHTS

Clap On. Clap On.

Sandra Shelton, a spirited 67-year-old widow of Scottsdale, Ariz., has wrangled with her homeowners' association for more than two years over what

she calls her "\$80,000 light bulb." She faces more than \$30,000 in unpaid fines and another \$50,000 in legal costs, after she was sued for a bright light that shines in her backyard. She says the lights and cameras are vital to protecting her 45-year-old daughter from a stalker. The association ordered Shelton to shut off the lights. She refused. With no settlement in sight, the association in April 2006 began fining Shelton \$50 per day. So far, the fines have grown to more than \$30,000, but the lights are still on. (AP)



PUNCH LINES

Why Is This Woman Smiling?

We have absolutely no idea! (EXPRESS)

VIOLENCE

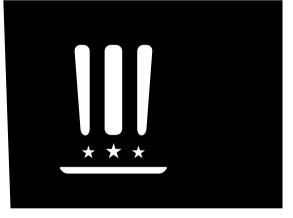
Low Self-Esteem of Attorney Baffles All

A Georgetown, Ky., public defender who was punched in court by a disgruntled client said Thursday he doesn't blame the man who gave him two black eyes. The disorder in the court, captured on video, happened Monday at Scott County Circuit Court after the

judge refused defendant Peter Hafer's request for a new attorney. Hafer, 30, of Cynthiana, told the judge he didn't trust his court-appointed attorney, Doug Crickmer. As Judge Rob Johnson began to tell Hafer he couldn't choose his public defender, Hafer landed the first punch. "I just couldn't take it anymore, and I just snapped," Hafer said later at the Scott County jail. Hafer hit the attorney several times in the face

and stomach. Hafer was restrained on the ground. Crickmer was admitted to the hospital and released later that day. He said he will not file assault charges. "I certainly don't fault him or blame him or wish him any ill will," Crickmer said Thursday. "I think Mr. Hafer was just frustrated. He had been in jail for some time.... I think he just got frustrated, fed up, and he just snapped, and I was the nearest target." (AP)





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SIEMENS





NOT FOR KIDS: Officials at Stillwell Junior High School in West Des Moines, Iowa, have pulled an edition of the student newspaper off the racks because it contains a recipe for hot chocolate with peppermint schnapps that slipped past editors.

Nation



Zookeeper Chris Hutson holds one of two newly hatched Komodo dragons.

WICHITA, KAN.

Komodo Dragons Apparently Born Without Male Parent

Two Komodo dragons have hatched at the Sedgwick County Zoo, apparently without the fertilization of a male. The dragons, both males, are believed to be the first in North America known to have hatched by parthenogenesis, which occurs naturally in some species. The zoo is having DNA testing done to make sure male sperm was not somehow stored in the female's body.(AP)

PHOENIX

Man Abandoned Attack On Super Bowl in Car Lot

A restaurateur angry at being denied a liquor license threatened to shoot people at the Super Bowl and drove to within sight of the stadium with a rifle and 200 rounds of ammunition before changing his mind, federal authorities said. Kurt William Havelock "waited about a minute and decided he couldn't do this," FBI agent Philip Thorlin testified at a detention hearing. (AP)

McCain's Nomination Nearly Certain

Romney exits race after disappointing Super Tuesday results

washington | John McCain effectively sealed the Republican presidential nomination on Thursday as chief rival Mitt Romney suspended his faltering campaign. "I must now stand aside, for our party and our country," Romney said.

"If I fight on in my campaign, all the way to the convention, I would

forestall the launch of a national campaign and make it more likely that Senator Clinton or Obama ···· would win. And in this

VOLE time of war, I simply cannot let my campaign be a part of aiding a surrender ----- to terror," Romney told the Conservative Political Action Conference in Washington.

Romney's decision leaves McCain as the top man standing in the GOP race, with Mike Huckabee and Texas Rep. Ron Paul far behind in the delegate hunt. It was a remarkable turnaround for McCain, who some seven months ago was barely viable, out of cash and losing staff. The four-term Arizona senator, denied his party's nomination in 2000, was poised to succeed George W. Bush as the GOP standard-bearer.

Within hours of Romney's speech, former Republican National Committee chairman Ken Mehlman gave his endorsement to McCain and urged all members of the GOP to back his candidacy.

"Our party has had many outstanding candidates this year, but it is now time for Republicans across the country to unite," Mehlman said.

McCain prevailed in most of the Super Tuesday states, moving closer to the 1,191 delegates needed to win the nomination at this summer's convention in St. Paul, Minn. Overall, McCain led with 707 delegates, to 294 for Romney, 195 for Huckabee and Paul at 14. LIZ SIDOTI (AP)

Global Sweep Hits Reputed Mobsters

Federal indictment targets members of Gambino crime family

NEW YORK | Authorities carried out one of the largest Mafia takedowns in recent memory Thursday when they charged dozens of reputed members of the Gambino crime family with gangland crimes spanning three decades, including the brutal slaying of a court officer and extortion at a failed NAS-CAR track.

The charges deal another crippling blow to the once-mighty Gambino family, already decimated by prosecutions since its heyday under notorious boss John Gotti.

A federal indictment in Brooklyn named 62 defendants, including the three highest-ranking mem-



Officers guard a police van in New York holding alleged Gambino family associates.

bers of the Gambino family, along with the brother and nephew of the late Gotti.

Most of the suspects were in custody following a series of raids on Thursday morning.

The New York case coincided with a series of raids in Italy targeting alleged members of Mafia families who control drug trafficking between the two sides of the Atlantic. Tom hays (AP)

AG Says Justice Will Not Probe **Waterboarding**

WASHINGTON | Attorney General Michael Mukasey told the House Judiciary Committee on Thurs-

day that the Justice Department would not investigate whether U.S. interrogators broke the law when waterboarding accused terrorists.



Mukasev

"Whatever was done as part of a CIA program, at the time that it was done, was the subject of a Department of Justice opinion through Office of Legal Counsel — and was found to be permissible under the law as it existed then," Mukasey told the committee. (AP)

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Nation



SHOPPING PRIORITIES: In a possible a sign of how shaky the economy has become, Wal-Mart on Thursday said its shoppers are redeeming their holiday gift cards for life necessities — pasta sauce, diapers, laundry detergent — instead of iPods or DVDs.

Child Found Alive in Twister Debris

Emergency workers sweep through region devastated by storms

CASTALIAN SPRINGS, TENN. | The muddy field was littered with debris after a wave of violent storms: Living room couches, strollers, children's toys. So, when two rescuers came upon a baby, they thought he was a doll.

Then he moved.

"We grabbed hold of his neck [to take a pulse] and he took a breath of air and started crying," said David Harmon, a firefighter from a nearby county who was combing the field for tornado victims.

The boy was found at least 100 yards away from where his family's house had been, possibly lifted by the storm's fierce winds, according to witnesses at the scene on Thursday. There was no trace of exactly where the house stood. His mother, who did not survive, was found in the same field.

In a region devastated by torna-



Kyson, 11 months, is held by his grandmother Kay Stowell at a hospital in Nashville, Tenn. Rescuers found the boy in the same field his dead mother was found.

does that killed at least 57 people as they swept through five states, the infant was a sign of hope. The 11-month old boy, named Kyson, was surrounded by flattened homes, bricks from a blown-apart

post office and snapped trees, a devastating scene similar to so many communities across the South.

The baby's mother, 24-yearold Kerri Stowell, was one of six people killed in the small community, said Sumner County Sheriff Bob Barker.

Federal and state emergency teams poured into the hardest-hit

The boy was found at least 100 yards away from where his family's house had been.

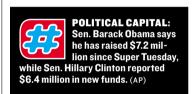
areas, along with utility workers and insurance claims representatives. Hundreds of homes were demolished across the region.

The twisters killed 32 people in Tennessee, 13 in Arkansas, seven in Kentucky and five in Alabama, emergency officials said. It was one of the 15 worst tornado death tolls since 1950, and the nation's deadliest barrage of tornadoes since 76 people were killed in Pennsylvania and Ohio on May 31, 1985.

FLORIDA | UP AND AWAY



CELESTIAL SHIPMENT: The space shuttle Atlantis lifts off Thursday at the Kennedy Space Center. The shuttle's crew will deliver a \$2 billion laboratory to the international space station.



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This information is based on the new book—The 7 Principles of Fat Burning by Eric Berg DC, which will be in bookstores January 2008. The FREE month (normally valued at \$36) includes on month on the fat burning tracker program and

Speaker: Eric Berg, DC DrBergWorkshop.com



PEAK PERFORMANCE IN THE SKY: Israel's air force is considering giving its combat pilots Viagra, after a recent study by Israeli doctors found a link between erectile dysfunction drugs and improved performance at high altitudes, Agence France-Presse reported Thursday.

World

WHO: Smoking May Kill 1B by 2100

Organization unveils worldwide campaign to limit tobacco use

One billion people may die of tobacco-related illness this century, almost all of them in developing countries, the World Health Organization warned Thursday as it rolled out an unprecedented global campaign to limit the spread of smoking.

The effort provides for the first

time a comprehensive look at tobacco use, as well as smoking control and taxation policies, in 179 countries. It also lays out six strategies to reduce tobacco use, many used by rich countries in recent decades, although far from fully deployed even there

Tobacco use is a risk factor for six of the world's eight leading causes of death and causes about one in every 10 deaths of adults now. That toll is expected to rise steeply, as tobacco companies target new customers,

The 329-page report reveals stark contrasts in tobacco use and smoking worldwide:

- → In Greece, 59 percent of men smoke cigarettes every day; in Sweden, 15 percent do.
- → In Indonesia, 65 percent of men and 4 percent of women do.
- → Nearly 2/3 of the world's smokers live in 10 countries, including China and India.

particularly women, in low-income countries, WHO officials said.

"What we're saving is that we don't want to let that happen," said Douglas Bettcher, director of the WHO initiative. "We want to see the operating environment of the tobacco companies become as difficult as possible in the near future."

While WHO cannot force countries to make tobacco control a priority, it hopes to convince them that such efforts are cheap and beneficial. David Brown (the Washington Post)



Condoleezza Rice, left, and Hamid Karzai speak in Kabul on Thursday.

Rice Notes In Kabul

Americans, British

KABUL. AFGHANISTAN | The U.S. and Britain, the nations with the most troops fighting in Afghanistan, made a renewed push Thursday to portray the war as winnable and worthy of international support despite a struggle to get more allies

On a visit here with British Foreign Secretary David Miliband, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice emphasized the improvements that Afghanistan has seen since the U.S.-led invasion in 2001 toppled

And U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates, at a meeting of NATO allies in Lithuania, said that despite fissures in the alliance over sharing burdens in Afghanistan, "I don't

The diplomatic efforts by two of

Progress

portray Afghan war as worthy of support

to commit forces.

the radical Taliban regime.

think there is a crisis."

President Bush's top advisers demonstrated the importance of Afghanistan's future in the struggle against Islamic extremism. Anne gearan (AP)

U.K. Approves Extradition Of Terror Suspect to U.S.

Britain on Thursday approved the extradition of an Islamic preacher

who is accused of trying to establish a terrorist training camp in Oregon, a spokesman said. Abu Hamza al-Masri — who has one eye and has hooks for



al-Masri

hands - once led a London mosque that was attended by Sept. 11 conspirator Zacarias Moussaoui. (AP)

N'DJAMENA, CHAD

Chad Imposes Curfew; **President Calls for EU Aid**

Chad's government imposed a duskto-dawn curfew Thursday and said it was hunting in the capital for coup "plotters and their accomplices" who were in hiding. President Idriss Deby, meanwhile, called for the swift deployment of a European peacekeeping force. (AP)

VIENNA, AUSTRIA

OSCE Refuses to Monitor **Upcoming Russian Election**

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe said Thursday it will not observe Russia's presidential election next month. The head of the OSCE's election monitoring arm said Russia's time frame prevented monitors from observing all of the election process. (AP)

HONG KONG | YEAR OF THE RAT BEGINS



NEW YEAR RITES: Worshippers place incense sticks in a pot at a temple in Hong Kong on Thursday, the first day of the Lunar New Year — the Year of the Rat. Throughout China, people gathered and set off fireworks in honor of the holiday.

Australia Decries Japan Whale Hunt

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA | Australia's government on Thursday released graphic pictures of Japanese hunters harpooning whales and dragging their bleeding carcasses onto a ship near Antarctica, calling it evidence of the "indiscriminate" slaughter of the animals.

Japan denied one of the photographs showed a mother and its calf



Whales are pulled onto a Japanese ship after being harpooned at sea.

being killed, and accused Australian officials and media of spreading propaganda that could damage ties between the two nations.

The images were the latest salvo in the new Australian government's stepped-up campaign against Japan's annual whale hunt, which resumed recently after being interrupted by environmental activists who chased the fleet through icy waters in the Antarctic. (AP)

HEARSAY | ZIMBABWE

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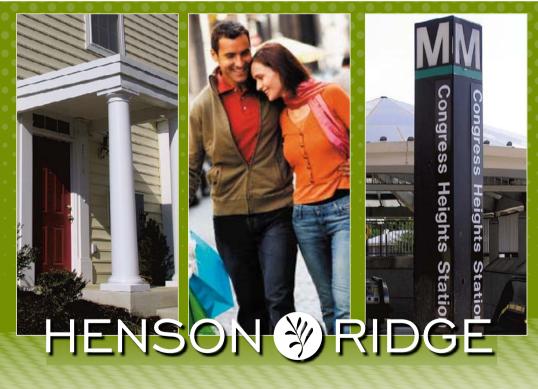
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CAPITALIZING ON CUTENESS: German toy manufacturers announced plans Thursday to release products featuring Flocke, the 2-month-old polar bear cub rescued from her mother by Nuremburg zookeepers in January. A board game, jigsaw puzzles and stuffed animals are already in the works.

World

Bhutto Mourning Ends in Pakistan

Police arrest 2 more suspects in the leader's Dec. 27 assassination

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN | Police arrested two more suspects Thursday in the suicide attack that killed opposition leader Benazir Bhutto, and thousands of her followers gathered at her tomb to mark the end of mourning for her and to launch her party's campaign for this month's parliamentary election.

Interior Ministry spokesman Javed Iqbal Cheemasaid the two suspects were picked up in Rawalpindi, where Bhutto died in a gun and bomb attack Dec. 27.

He declined to say whether the two men were key figures in the assassination.

Last month, police in northwestern Pakistan arrested two other suspects, including a 15-year-old boy who was alleged to have been part of a backup suicide squad assigned to kill Bhutto if the primary assassins failed.

The latest arrests were announ-



Pakistani mourners pray during a ceremony to mark the end of the 40-day mourning period for slain opposition leader Benazir Bhutto in Peshawar on Thursday.

ced as a team of British detectives from Scotland Yard returned to Pakistan to report the findings from their investigation of the assassina-

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tion. Their report is expected to shed light on exactly how Bhutto died amid confusion over whether she was killed by a gunshot or by the impact of a suicide bombing.

British diplomats are expected to release a summary of the report Friday.

President Pervez Musharraf invited Scotland Yard to conduct its own inquiry after Bhutto supporters alleged the government may have been involved in her death.

U.S. and Pakistani officials believe the assassination was masterminded by Baitullah Mehsud, an al-Qaeda-linked commander based in South Waziristan.

About 10,000 mourners were at Bhutto's tomb in the southern province of Sindh to mark the end of the mourning period Thursday. Crowds filed inside the Bhutto family's grand marble mausoleum, where they showered petals on her grave. Weeping women recited passages from the Quran.

Bhutto's husband, Asif Ali Zardari, ringed by bodyguards, delivered a brief speech in which he described his wife as a martyr who fought to change "the system of exploitation" in impoverished Pakistan.



Relatives of a Hamas militant killed by Israeli forces mourn in Gaza Thursday.

7 Palestinians Killed in Gaza

JERUSALEM | Israeli forces on Thursday killed seven Palestinians, including a schoolteacher, in its campaign to stop daily rocket barrages from the Gaza Strip, while adding new economic pressure cutting electricity to Gaza by a symbolic 1 percent.

Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak vowed even harsher military action if Gaza militants persist with firing rockets at southern Israel.

The first cutback on the flow of electricity to Gaza was carried out Thursday evening, Defense Ministry spokesman Shlomo Dror said. (AP)

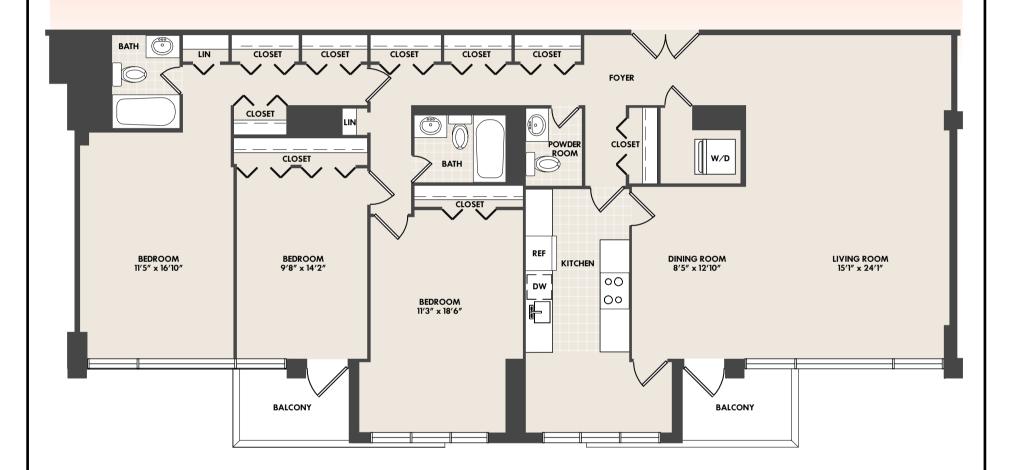




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Local

Congress Backs D.C. Gun Owners

Bipartisan majorities in House, Senate sign brief in landmark case

WASHINGTON | Bipartisan majorities in both the House and the Senate are backing gun owners in a landmark Supreme Court case.

The court next month will hear arguments in a challenge to the District of Columbia's ban on handguns, the most important gun rights case at the Supreme Court in 70 years. Fifty-five senators and 250 representatives have signed onto a brief that urges the justices to strike down the ban and assert that the Second Amendment gives individuals the right to own guns for their protection.

"The Supreme Court has the perfect case to affirm ... a Second Amendment right to own a gun for self-defense," Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, said at a Washington news conference Thursday.

Nine Democrats in the Senate

and 68 in the House joined much larger Republican contingents in signing the brief, which is expected to be filed Friday.

The main issue before the justices is whether the Second Amendment protects an individual's right to own guns or instead merely sets forth the collective right of states to maintain militias.

The Bush administration also supports individual gun rights. But the administration said governments still may impose reasonable restrictions on gun ownership and asked the justices to send the case back to lower courts without deciding whether the handgun ban fails that test.

Hutchison and Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., who also signed the brief, agreed that some restrictions are valid, citing their support for banning assault weapons.

But they said the court should declare the handgun ban unconstitutional and set a clear limit beyond which governments may not go to limit gun ownership. (AP)

D.C. Train Collision Injures 7

Locomotive runs into commuter train, rear wheels forced off track

WASHINGTON | A locomotive hit a commuter train at Union Station on Thursday, knocking the train's rear wheels off the track and injuring seven people, officials said.

MARC Train 419 from Baltimore was hit from behind about 10 a.m., dislodging two rear wheels, said Cheron Wicker, a spokeswoman for the Maryland commuter service. The train remained upright.

Amtrak spokeswoman Karina Romero said the MARC train was stopped when a locomotive used to move the commuter train to a maintenance facility came in too fast and hit the train while passengers were deboarding. Both pieces of MARC equipment are operated by Amtrak, officials said.

Seven people were taken to the hospital after complaining of minor head and neck injuries, District of Columbia fire department spokesman Alan Etter said. No major service delays were expected after the accident, officials said. (AP)

ARLINGTON, VA. | CLINTON COURTS YOUNG VOTERS



HIGH SCHOOL DUTIFUL: residential hopeful Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., greets supporters as she enters a rally at Washington - Lee High School in Arlington, Va., Thursday. Virginia holds its primary Feb. 12.

Newseum's Home Will Open April 11

WASHINGTON | The new \$450 million home of a journalism museum called the Newseum will open on April 11, allowing it to lure in some of the thousands of tourists who will be in town for the famed cherry blossoms, officials said Thursday.

Admission will be free on opening day; after that, it will cost \$20 for adults.

The new building on Pennsylvania Avenue has 250,000 square feet of exhibit space, 15 theaters, 14 major galleries and two broadcast studios.

School groups from the Wash-



The Newseum's \$450 million Pennsylvania Avenue location opens April 11.

ington area will get free tours of the Newseum for the first year, thanks to a sponsorship by The Washington Post. Sarah Karush (AP)

The Lotteries

Thursday, Feb. 7

DISTRICT

 Mid-day Lucky Numbers
 2-4-1

 Evening Lucky Numbers (Wed.)
 7-8-5

 Mid-day DC 4
 5-9-6-7

 Evening DC 4 (Wed.)
 0-0-9-7

 Rolling Cash Five (Wed.)
 16-17-18-26-33

 Daily 6 (Wed.)
 5-13-16-23-36-37 Bonus: II

 Hot Lotto (Wed.)
 1-15-23-25-37 (I6)

MARYLAND

Mid-day Pick 3	7-4-6
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	0-2-5
Mid-day Pick 4	7-1-5-0
Evening Biol 4 (Med.)	7-0-7-2

Match 5 (Wed.) **1-10-25-32-35 Bonus: 8**Lotto (Wed.) **5-7-14-15-17-34**

VIRGINIA

 Mid-day Pick 3 (Thurs.)
 4-1-2

 Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)
 7-0-3

 Mid-day Pick 4 (Thurs.)
 0-6-9-8

 Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)
 7-8-7-6

 Mid-day Cash 5 (Thurs.)
 1-4-5-17-20

 Evening Cash 5 (Wed.)
 1-3-6-9-27

 Win for Life (Wed.)
 7-21-22-23-30-36

MULTI-STATE GAMES

Powerball (Wed.)	3-5-12-42-43 (5)
Power Play	5X

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a lottery ticket location or a lottery claims office. Drawings that occur after Express's deadline will be published two days later.

Herniated Disc Technology Discovered by Scientists

A new free report has recently been released that reveals how breakthrough medical technology is offering new hope for sciatica sufferers. Discover how research has proven non-surgical spinal decompression successful in treating debilitating back pain.

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The amount, in millions of dollars, drugmaker Merck will pay to resolve allegations that it overcharged state and federal governments for the drugs Vioxx, Zocor and Pepcid, U.S. prosecutors said Thursday.

NASDAQ Stock Market

The Washington Post **Names New Publisher**

Katharine Wevmouth to head new division overseeing Web, print

WASHINGTON | Katharine Weymouth, the granddaughter of late Washington Post Co. chairman Katharine Graham, has been named chief executive of Washington Post Media, a new division that will oversee The Washington Post newspaper and its online component, washingtonpost.com, the company said Thursday.

Weymouth, 41, will also serve as the newspaper's publisher, the fifth member of the Graham newspaper dynasty to hold that title since her great-grandfather. Eugene Meyer, bought The Post at

a bankruptcy sale in 1933. She is the niece of Post Co. Chairman Donald E. Graham and the daughter of



Weymouth

Newsweek senior editor Lally Weymouth and architect Yann Weymouth.

Weymouth succeeds Boisfeuillet Jones Jr., 61, who has been

Post publisher since 2000.

"While it is humbling to follow in the footsteps of my ancestors, it is also very exciting," Weymouth said. "I will do my best to honor their legacy and uphold the tradition they built of journalistic excellence supported by a first-rate business operation." FRANK AHRENS (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Market Action

New York Stock Exchange

			-						
Gainers				Gainers					
STOCK	LAST	DAILY Change	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE	STOCK	LAST	DAILY Change	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE		
Cryolife	8.13	+1.38	+20.4	ValenceTch	2.03	+.54	+36.2		
Gartner	17.25	+2.48	+16.8	Isramc	38.03	+8.03	+26.8		
StageStrs	13.66	+1.93	+16.5	PwrIntg n	27.12	+5.69	+26.6		
Americdt	13.74	+1.75	+14.6	PC Mall	9.85	+1.80	+22.4		
99 Cents	8.26	+1.00	+13.8	Iomai	.96				
Losers				Losers					
Idearc	11.56	-3.66	-24.0	OrionEn n	8.51	-6.39	-42.9		
RH Donl	21.95	-5.42	-19.8	SelCmfrt	4.94	-2.21	-30.9		
Gotchk	2.12	45	-17.5	EdgePet	4.41	-1.96	-30.8		
SpectBrds	3.90	68	-14.8	CorpExc	40.14	-11.68	-22.5		
Griffon	9.61	-1.37	-12.5	Synaloy	13.05	-3.39	-20.6		

Rates			Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)						
	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK		TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO			
Prime Rate	8.25	8.25	British Pound	.5153	.5102	.5078			
Fed Funds close	5.23	5.23	Canadian Dollar	1.0117	1.0046	1.1852			
3-month disc	4.76	4.81	European Euro	.6916	.6836	.7688			
2-year	4.68	4.64	Japanese Yen	107.42	106.58	120.66			
10-year	4.67	4.68	Mexican Peso	10.7753	10.8193	10.9677			
30-year	4.83	4.86	Taiwanese Dollar	32.00	32.00	33.03			

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Pharmac	y Stocks	S	
STOCK	LAST	DAILY Change	YEAR TO DATE PERCENT CHANGE
AbtLab	58.10	+.37	+3.5
Allergan s	67.31	+.59	+4.8
AstraZen	38.72	-2.43	-9.6
BarrPhm	51.45	12	-3.1
BrMySq	23.34	48	-11.0
CephIn	63.53	+.28	-11.5
ForestLab	41.38	13	+13.5
Hospira	41.38	+.31	-3.0
JohnJn	62.81	24	-5.8
LillyEli	51.22	18	-4.1
Merck	45.70	01	-21.4
Pfizer	22.67	+.08	3
SchergPl	19.92	45	-25.2
WarnerChil	16.86	+.01	-4.9
Wyeth	40.87	+.24	-7.5

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Sunday in The Washington Post



ICE-BREAKER: Bartender Jim Hewes at the Willard InterContinental's Round Robin Bar witnesses small talk at work every day.

Say Something

The weather is just one place to start in making small talk

IN SUNDAY SOURCE | "It's cold outside today, isn't it?"

"Yes! It's frigid!"

"Makes me wistful for spring."

"Me, too. I love warm weather."

Well, duh. Who doesn't? But any kind of weather, even the worst of it, has an upside: conversation fodder. Call it what you will — chitchat, idle banter, cocktail party conversation — but small talk is ubiqui-

tous. It's a staple of happy hours, sure, but it's also invoked in queues, on chairlifts and airplanes, in job interviews and at networking functions. It's a necessary step toward talking a bigger game.

It can also be maddeningly mundane. Niceties about the weather? Come on. So, what makes light conversation good conversation? And how can those of us who are less silver-tongued learn not to sweat the small stuff?

There's a way? Do tell.

"It's fine to talk about the weather."

Eh? This is not what we'd hoped

to hear from Debra Fine, author of "The Fine Art of Small Talk."

"People are looking for the perfect thing to say," she says, "but most of us perfectionists never come up with the perfect icebreaker."

for more ...

IN SUNDAY SOURCE

Find more advice on the art of small talk, plus some definite rules about the dos and don'ts of chitchat.

The Washington Post

Hence, weather. It's a commonality, Fine says. So are is Britney Spears ("Tragic, isn't it?"), traffic ("Brutal, as always") and the fate of the Nationals ("Will they ever hit the big time?"). If the goal of small talk is to make the other person comfortable with you us, agreeable topics are ideal.

"Focus on something that can put you on the same level as the person," says Jim Hewes, who has tended bar at the Willard InterContinental hotel's Round Robin Bar since it reopened in 1986. "If the TV is on and the football game's on and you say, 'Go, Redskins,' and the guy at the bar says, 'Yeah, I love the Redskins,' then all of a sudden you've established common ground."

Preparing a handful of talking points alleviates one of small talk's biggest discomforts: What do you say next? The icebreaker is one thing; keeping the conversation going is another.

When in doubt, ask questions and listen. Attentiveness is flattery in the highest degree. Smart follow-up questions show you're interested and help the conversation flow.

Above all, experts say, don't panic when there are pauses. When you meet someone, such lulls are inevitable and, chances are, the other person feels equally self-conscious.

At parties, of course, there is a delightful antidote to conversational awkwardness: alcohol. Booze has its limitations (slurry talk is not small talk), but it also presents a strategic opportunity. At cocktail parties and other such events, experts say, it's smart to stand near the bar or the appetizer table. There's a constant flow of people and built-in commonality.

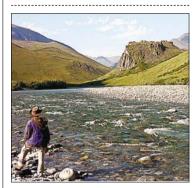
Food is undoubtedly one of the easier — and tastier — entrees into conversation. Standing near the food table not only occupies you (hey, it's impolite to talk with food in your mouth), but it also gives you an easy excuse to chat when the next person comes by to grab some shrimp cocktail.

It isn't always easy, comfortable or interesting, but aficionados believe that small talk can provide big gains. The point of the trite topics is to unearth topics on which to connect, and those connections could play out in business, romance or your social life — who knows?

And everyone talks about the weather. Lovely, isn't it? JULIA FELD-MEIER (SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST)



THESE STORIES AND MORE THIS SUNDAY



North to Alaska

Want to get away? How about a rafting trip through the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, where you're 175 miles away from the nearest road? TRAVEL

⇒ Fictional Love

Short stories by Julia Alvarez, Stuart Dybek, Walter Kirn, Julie Orringer and last year's fiction contest winner.

THE MAGAZINE



Second Sight

"Jericho", the canceled CBS series about a post-holocaust Kansas town, is being revived, thanks to an outpouring of fan support. We report on the drama's comeback. TV WEEK

How Depressing

You see the iconic photo of the migrant mother, drawn and tired, with three children clinging, and you ask: Could that happen here? STYLE & ARTS

Money Thoughts

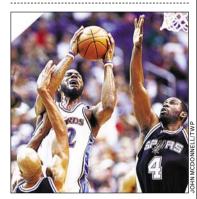
As Valentine's Day approaches, let's turn our thoughts to money. When you get married, you're not only entering a romantic relationship, but also a financial partnership. **BUSINESS**

Veekend

REDSKINS

Dropout: Giants coordinator Steve Spagnuolo is no longer in the running for Redskins coach. Does that make Fassel a shoo-in? | 16





DeShawn Stevenson and the Wizards are at Denver and Phoenix this weekend.

p friday

- 7 P.M. The Capitals took over the Southeast Division this week, now. they host the Hurricanes and give them a chance to take it back. CSN
- 7 P.M. The Terps women struggled against Virginia Tech earlier this week. They host Virginia on Friday, CSN
- 10:30 P.M. After five straight losses, can the Wizards defeat Carmelo, A.I. and the Nuggets in Denver? ESPN

saturday

- 12 P.M. Notre Dame looks for revenge against Marquette after an embarrassing 92-66 loss to the Eagles earlier in the season. ESPN
- 1 P.M. Boston College, on a five-game losing streak, tries to give the Blue Devils their first ACC loss. CBS
- 8 P.M. Third-best in the ACC, the Terps host N.C. State, which is nipping at their heals. Ch. 20
- 9 P.M. The Hoyas, who have just one conference loss this year, have a tough game at Louisville. ESPN

sunday

- I P.M. The Rangers come to Washington to take on the Capitals. CSN
- 4:30 P.M. With a memorable year and a surprising Super Bowl, the NFL season comes to a close with the Pro Bowl in Honolulu, FOX
- 6:30 P.M. After suffering a tough loss to rival No. 2 Duke, will UNC be in trouble against Clemson? FSN
- 9:30 P.M. The Wizards are one of the first teams to play Phoenix since the Suns traded for Shaq. ESPN

The Face of the NHL

With 46 goals, Caps' young superstar makes his case for NHL MVP

CAPITALS | Scoring four goals and setting up another after breaking his nose and taking a stick to the face in a 5-4 overtime win — forever trumping the Gordie Howe Hat Trick — earned Alex Ovechkin considerable press.

His devotion to the game and his continuous improvement — his 46 goals already match his total last season — earned Ovechkin a \$124 million contract.

And the fact that the Washington Capitals awoke Thursday morning atop the NHL's Southeast Division two months after propping up the entire league just two months ago may earn the Russian superstar the MVP award.

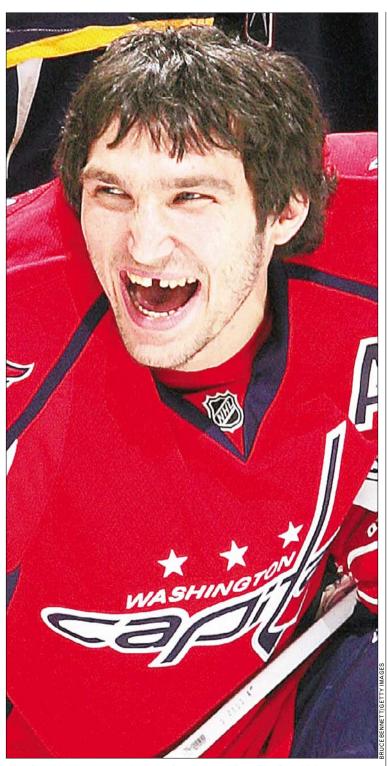
Move over, Sidney Crosby. The beaten yet always smiling mug of the Caps' third-year talisman is the new

66 Hitting people, passing, scoring - I don't know what else forwards could do."

VIKTOR KOZLOV. CAPITALS FORWARD

face of the NHL, and he has taken his game and his team to unprecedented heights in the past few weeks. He scored in six straight contests in mid-January, took a break with two goals in the All-Star game and has seven in his past four. That includes the winning goals in the Caps' 4-3 victories at Columbus and Philadelphia this week.

Ovechkin leads the NHL in goals (by seven), points (with 73), game-



Alex Ovechkin has brought his team from worst to first. The Capitals' superstar has scored 46 goals so far this season, seven more than anyone else in the NHL.

winners and shots.

He scored 28.8 percent of his team's goals and has been held pointless in just four games since New Year's as the Caps have gone 11-5-0. They host Carolina on Friday and the Rangers on Sunday afternoon, a playoff berth now very much there for the taking.

NO. 1 STUNNERS

- → The Capitals moved into first place on Wednesday, just two months after coach Bruce Boudreau took over a last-place team with a 6-14-1 record.
- → As of Thursday, the Caps had a one-point lead in the Southeast division, which they last won in '01.
- → The division title might be the only route to the postseason. The Caps' 57 points were good for ninth place in the East, one spot out of the playoffs.
- → Washington has not lost consecutive games in regulation since Nov. 21, the only team to do that.

"Alex's game is excellent — excellent," Caps winger and compatriot Viktor Kozlov said. "Hitting people, passing, scoring — I don't know what else forwards could do."

Whether the Caps (26-24-5) can stay in first place — Thursday was the latest they'd topped the division since 2003 — may come down to whether Ovechkin is doing too much. Alexander Semin's output has slowed in recent games, and right now the Caps' second-leading goal scorer is defenseman Mike Green (14).

"[Ovechkin] is an amazing person, and, obviously, we've got to find someone else to score to help him out," coach Bruce Boudreau said. "He amazes me every day. But I mean, again, I hope he continues." BRIAN STRAUS



HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL | Reality Bites A prep football player who set up a news conference to announce that he was going to play football at Cal and then claimed he was duped into believing he was recruited admitted he made up the story. Kevin Hart, a 6-foot-5, 290-pound offensive lineman, offered a broad apology in a statement. Hart said he had wanted to play football at a Division I school "more than anything." "When I realized that wasn't going to happen, I made up what I wanted to be reality," Hart said. (AP)

What's in Ewing's Name?

Hoyas forward is a star, but in a different way than his famous father

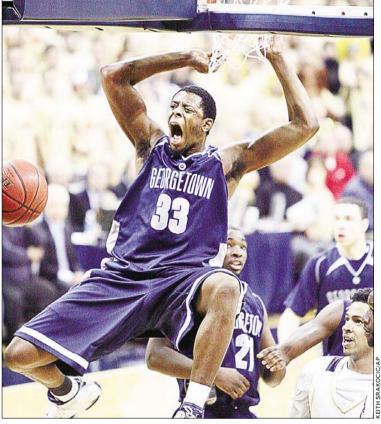
HOYAS HOOPS | By now, Patrick Ewing Jr.'s last name is almost incidental at Georgetown.

He doesn't average 15 points, 10 rebounds and three blocks per game like his father did. Nor will the vounger Ewing win Big East Player of the Year once, let alone twice like the former Hoyas legend. In fact, this No. 33 doesn't even start.

Yet, in his own way, Ewing has become as invaluable to his team as his name would imply.

Some days he will score — like his career high 16-point performance against Seton Hall in last Saturday's win — while in other games, Ewing Jr. will excel on the boards and on defense, such as in Monday's victory over South Florida.

More than anything, though, he always provides the type of effort coach John Thompson III is looking for. "The energy he brings is infectious," Thompson said, noting Ewing's value even as he sat out a season two years ago after transferring to Georgetown. "He



The always-energetic Patrick Ewing Jr. is willing to do whatever is asked of him.

won games when he wasn't even on the court."

On Saturday, Ewing's contributions will be more tangible as the No. 6 Hoyas (19-2, 9-1) will try to extend their winning streak to six games while visiting Louisville.

Ewing says he is happy to do

BIG GAME IN THE BIG EAST Ten-point win or not, the Hoyas' initial intensity was in doubt

Monday against South Florida:

→ The Big East's best team trailed the league's worst 16-6 seven minutes in. It's doubtful motivation will be hard to find Saturday at Louisville (17-6, 7-3), the other preseason favorite to win the league and which sits just two games behind firstplace Georgetown. "We don't need any speeches from coach Thompson," John Thompson III said about the game at Freedom

whatever is needed each game. "I'm just out there having fun," he said.

Hall. (EXPRESS)

Thompson thinks there is more to it than that. A key contributor on last year's Final Four squad, Ewing has consciously been more active during this, his second and final Big East season. Just like his father, Ewing won't settle for second place.

"He's a senior; he's been through it,"Thompson said. "He understands there aren't that many games left to be played. He has that urgency." MATT SWENSON (EXPRESS)

Swengali

TERPS HOOPS | BY MATT SWENSON



Gary Williams has the Terps playing well.

Thanks to Gary, **Terps Are Good**

GARY WILLIAMS BROUGHT Maryland's basketball program back from the dead, reached two consecutive Final Fours and won the NCAA championship in 2002.

Yet the coach, who collected his 600th career victory Wednesday night, may be in the midst of his best coaching job.

Less than two months ago, his Terrapins were not a very good team. Maryland lost three consecutive games in the middle of December — not exactly an embarrassment, except that two of those defeats came against Ohio and American.

At that low point, the former Maryland point guard from 1964 to 1968 made a major shift in strategy to salvage the season.

Talented but erratic point guard Greivis Vasquez was moved to a secondary role on offense as Williams realized that Maryland needed to rely more on big men James Gist and Bambale Osby to succeed.

Using a more physical style than in years past, the Terrapins (15-8) revived their NCAA tournament hopes by knocking off then-No. 1 North Carolina on Jan. 19. The improved play was readily apparent in the next game, too, in a close loss to Duke. Three consecutive wins later, including Williams' 600th at Boston College Wednesday, Maryland is now third in the ACC and has the look of a team ready to dance in March.

Once again, Williams has resurrected Maryland.



Terps point guard has calmed down and is playing better ball

TERPS HOOPS | Greivis Vasquez's emotions — his happiness, his anger, his everything - were never far from the surface, and maybe that was the problem.

Certainly, that was the case in early December, when the Maryland guard fouled out and his teammates abruptly turned a four-point against Boston College lead into a three-point loss. Playing with three fouls, he picked up his fourth while defending a shot. At the sound of the referee's whistle, Vasquez screamed, then wildly slapped the padded back of the basket.

Another whistle. Technical foul.

Take a seat.

"I think that kind of settled him down a little bit," teammate Eric Hayes said. "Now there's a little bit more thinking before he reacts."

Vasquez's passion is one of his appealing qualities, but it's a fine line separating passion and recklessness, and the sophomore from Venezuela is finally learning to walk it. Lately, there are fewer primal screams, fewer exhortations directed at the crowd. fewer frivolous outbursts.

"I'm pacing myself a little bit," he said, "because I'm playing a lot of minutes and guarding the best player on the other team. It's hard."

Indeed, Vasquez spends more than 36 of the game's 40 minutes on the court, more than all but one other Atlantic Coast Conference player. Give back those 10 minutes he lost



Greivis Vasquez plays 36 minutes per game and always has plenty of energy.

Vasquez was averaging 15.8 points per game. In the 13 games since, he's averaged more than 18 points per game, including 25 points Wednesday when the Terrapins (15-8, 5-2 in the ACC) avenged the earlier loss to BC and gave coach Gary Williams his 600th career victory.

The Terrapins have won five of their last six games and are now third in the ACC going into Saturday's home game against North Carolina State (15-7, 4-4).

"I've got to play harder at the end," Vasquez said. "When you're playing in the ACC, you've got to get everything out. You've got to play hard and give it everything you've got." DEREK TURNER



To reach Matt Swenson, e-mail matt.swenson@readexpress.com

Weekend Sports

And Then There Were 3?

Redskins mull options with Spagnuolo out of the running for coach

REDSKINS | With the rising star from the Super Bowl out of the running, the Washington Redskins spent Thursday planning their next move.

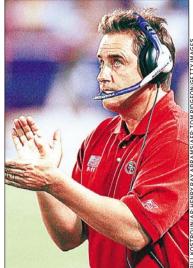
Will their new coach be Jim Fassel? Ron Meeks? Steve Mariucci?

Or how about another mystery candidate? After all, owner Dan Snyder has kept the process well under wraps since Joe Gibbs resigned Jan. 8. At least two contenders, Fassel and Pete Carroll, weren't known to be on Snyder's list until more than a week after their initial interviews.

And, of course, it was a mystery candidate who got the job four years ago, when Gibbs emerged out







Jim Fassel, Ron Meeks and Steve Mariucci seem to be the top three candidates as the Redskins' coaching search moves forward.

of nowhere after Snyder had higher-profile talks with other prospects.

One certainty is that the next

Redskins coach will not be New York Giants defensive coordinator Steve Spagnuolo, who withdrew his name from consideration Thursday, citing his desire to remain with the Super Bowl champions.

"His heart is in New York City," Spagnuolo's agent, Bob LaMonte, told The Associated Press. "He loves the ownership. He loves the players. He feels he has to stay there."

The Giants promptly rewarded Spagnuolo with a three-year, \$6 million contract.

Meanwhile, Snyder spent the day conferring with advisers to consider his options following a month's worth of interviews, a person familiar with the selection process told The AP. The owner has said he hopes to have a coach in place by the end of the week.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the club has preferred to keep details of its search private.

Fassel, a former Giants coach, and Meeks, the Colts' defensive coordinator, voiced approval of Snyder's decision to hire Jim Zorn to run the offense and promote Greg Blache to take charge of the defense. Mariucci, twice a head coach, had one interview last week in Arizona, putting him behind Fassel and Meeks on the list of favorites.

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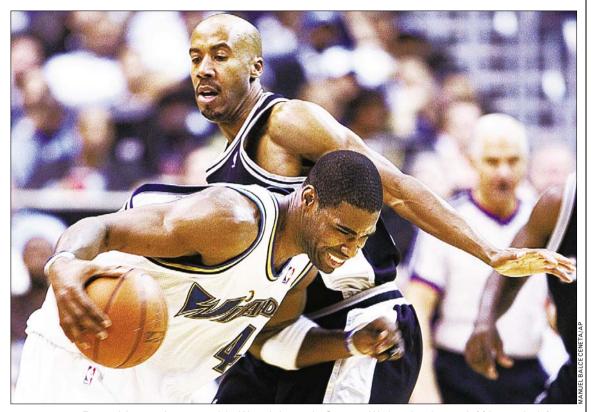
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Sports $|\mathbf{W}|$

Weekend



 $\textbf{GETTING UGLY:} Forward\ Antawn\ Jamison\ and\ the\ Wizards\ lost\ to\ the\ Spurs\ on\ Wednesday,\ the\ team's\ fifth\ straight\ defeat.$

Westward Bound

With some starters still out, it's a tough time for a 4-game road trip

WIZARDS | Going west is an American tradition. Unfortunately for the Wizards, their quest appears to offer more danger than treasure.

Starting Friday night, Washington (24-24) plays four games in six days against Western Conference opponents that they'd rather not see at this point in the season. The road trip's timing could hardly be worse, considering the recent injury to Caron Butler that has bench players logging heavy minutes. Washington takes five-game losing streak into Friday's game at Denver.

"You're playing some good teams who play well at home," forward Antawn Jamison said. "This is a great stretch to test the character of this team."

The Wizards have arguably overachieved up to this point, and the players don't want to throw away their position in the middle of the Eastern Conference playoff picture before their stars return to the lineup.

"We've done well up to the last few games, and we definitely don't

TOUGH BREAK

Caron Butler has missed four of the last six games with a hip flexor strain, and his status for the upcoming road trip is still up in the air:



→ Wizards coach Eddie Jordan says the All-Star forward will accompany the team on the trip, meaning he could be back on the court in the next week. But his absence makes the prospect of winning on the road more tenuous: Washington is just 7-24 all-time when the man they call "Tough Juice" misses games. "You can't worry about it. It's life in the big leagues," Jordan said. "We've got to make sure that we're prepared to do things and manage the game to make sure we stay in the games on the road." ERIC BRANDNER

want our efforts [in the first half of the season] to be wasted with a poor stretch here," guard Roger Mason said. "We've definitely got a tough schedule, but we're capable of winning any game."

After Denver (29-19), Washington visits Phoenix (34-15) on Sunday and then flies overnight to Oakland for a game at Golden State (29-19) on Monday. They cap the trip Wednesday in Los Angeles against the Clippers (15-31), the only losing squad they'll face.

The Wizards are 8-9 against the Western Conference this year, but 13 of those games have come at Verizon Center. Washington is a combined 7-13 over the last five years in the buildings it will visit during this road trip. However, the Wizards played most of those games with a full roster, including a memorable overtime victory in Phoenix last season in which Gilbert Arenas scored 54 points.

"We always say, 'You never know where wins come from," Wizards coach Eddie Jordan said. "When you go on a road trip, you can win at Phoenix. You can eke out a win in Denver.

"If you work hard enough and you stay organized and you follow the game plan ... you never know what can happen." ERIC BRANDNER





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Neekend Sports

16 | EXPRESS | 02.08.2008 | FRIDAY



Phil Mickelson struggled a little bit on Thursday and finished five back at minus-1.

Mickelson Is **Out of Focus**

Tiger takes spotlight to start the year, but Phil will likely be back

GOLF | Phil Mickelson is not ready to be anointed on the Monterey Peninsula, but he's getting close.

When he blistered the field and the courses last year in the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, tying the tournament scoring record and winning by five shots, it was his third victory in 10 years.

One more win there would put him in elite company with Sam Snead and Jack Nicklaus, whose four victories at Pebble include the '72 U.S. Open. And even though he was five strokes back after Thursday's opening round of minus-1, there's little reason to believe Mickelson won't at least give himself a chance on the weekend.

There has been so much focus on Tiger Woods this season and for several reasons. The world's No. 1 player got everyone's attention in early January when he said the Grand Slam was "easily within reason," then showed he wasn't kidding by winning the Buick Invitational by eight shots and following that with a victory in the Dubai Desert Classic. In

GOLF LEADERBOARD

Kent Jones, 6-under

John Mallinger, 5-under

Roland Thatcher, 5-under

Olin Browne, 5-under through 16 Todd Demsey, 5-under through 14

Jay Williamson, 4-under

Tim Herron, 4-under Michael Allen, 4-under

Kris Cox, 4-under

the process, Mickelson has become somewhat of a forgotten figure.

He lost last summer with a wrist injury, but reveled in beating Woods head-to-head at the Deutsche Bank Championship and won the HSBC Champions in Shanghai.

Mickelson is excited about the year, and for good reason. He has been with short-game guru Dave Pelz for four years, and now that his wrist injury has healed, he is making fast progress with swing coach Butch Harmon.

Are his expectations as high as they have ever been?

'Yeah, I would say so," Mickelson said. Doug ferguson (AP)



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Suns' Title Hopes Brighten

Phoenix is betting Shaq can bring the city its 1st NBA title

NBA | Shaquille O'Neal had strong words for those who doubt he can fit in with the Phoenix Suns.

"I'm very upset," he said Thursday at a news conference to introduce him as a member of his new team. "You just don't really want to get me upset. When I'm upset, I'm known to do certain things — like win championships."

O'Neal, once the game's dominant big man but now slowed by a hip injury, said he is motivated by the negative talk.

He said people are "going to be very surprised" about his role in a Suns running game orchestrated by Steve Nash. O'Neal, who turns 36 next month, has been out for two weeks with a hip injury but cleared his physical Wednesday and hopes to play before the All-Star break. The Suns play Seattle on Friday and Washington on Sunday, and have two games next week.

The trade that brought O'Neal to Phoenix on Wednesday is one of the most unexpected in NBA history, a blockbuster that sent Shawn Marion and Marcus Banks to Miami and came together in just a few days under first-year Phoenix general manager Steve Kerr.

The criticism has been widespread, from fans to talk radio hosts to newspaper columnists. All claimed that Phoenix had acquired a oncegreat big man far past his prime.

Yet coach Mike D'Antoni and the Suns players said they were elated. They believe O'Neal will be reinvigorated by the move and become a crucial component of their title run.



Shaquille O'Neal rebuffed criticism that he wouldn't fit into the Suns' offense.

Nash was "shocked" by the trade. "If you look at what happened the last 24 hours, it was incredible," he

Commuter Coach

→ When Michelle Miller's job moved to Colorado, she didn't abandon the basketball team at Washington-Lee H.S. Now, she commutes, I Today, Sports

M The Washington Post

said. "It was very unexpected, but at the same time to get a chance to play with Shaquille O'Neal is pretty exciting."

O'Neal has averaged 25.6 points and 11.5 rebounds in 16 seasons in the NBA. This season, plagued by injuries, he's averaging 14.2 points.

"When Shaq came to the team four years ago, I always felt it was forever," Heat coach Pat Riley said. "We won a championship with him. We wish him nothing but the best. We have to move on with our team. We're rebuilding." BOB BAUM (AP)

Both McNamee And Clemens Talk on the Hill

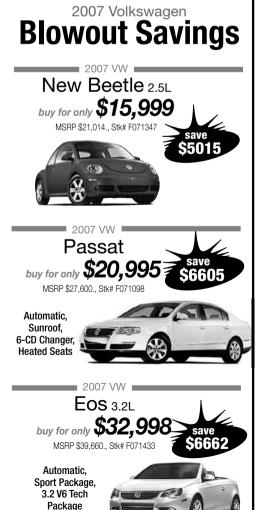
BASEBALL | Roger Clemens and Brian McNamee brought their vastly different stories to Capitol Hill on Thursday, when the star pitcher met one-on-one with congressmen informally and his former personal trainer met with House lawyers for a sworn deposition.

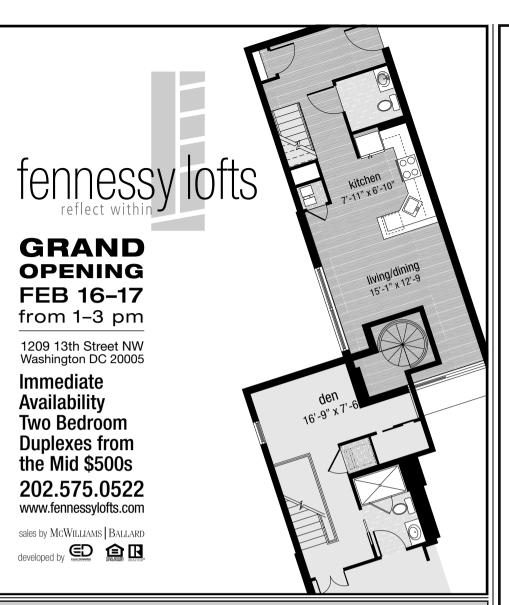
McNamee did not speak to reporters on his way into the offices of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. On another floor in the Rayburn House Office Building, Clemens made brief comments as he walked through marble hallways to go to various offices of representatives on the committee.

"I'm ready for Wednesday to get here," Clemens said earlier, referring to the committee's public hearing next week, when he, McNamee and other witnesses, including pitcher Andy Pettitte, are to testify. (AP)

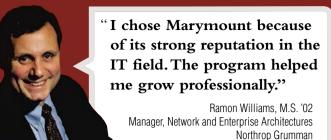








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Sports Weekend

D.C. United Trades Gomez

Club gets a first-round draft pick and other considerations for star

UNITED | D.C. United has traded the rights to 2006 MLS most valuable player Christian Gomez to the Colorado Rapids, sources close to the negotiations said Thursday.

United will receive a first-round draft pick and other considerations in exchange for the Argentine midfielder, whose contract expired in December. The Rapids will hold a news conference Friday in Denver to introduce Gomez.

After rejecting United's contract extension offers since early last year, Gomez was essentially replaced on the roster last week when the club acquired former Argentina World Cup midfielder Marcelo Gallardo. According to one source, United was willing to increase Gomez's base salary from \$218,500 to \$325,000 and guarantee the contract for two years; Colorado will pay him



Christian Gomez joined D.C. United in 2004 and made an immediate impact.

close to \$400,000 with two guaranteed seasons, plus incentives and

Gomez, 33, was entitled to sign with any club outside MLS — he apparently entertained offers from teams in the Middle East and Latin America — but because MLS does

MARK YOUR SCHEDULE D.C. United announced its 2008 MLS schedule on Thursday:

- → The team opens its schedule at Kansas City on March 29. Its first home game is April 5 against
- David Beckham's L.A. Galaxy will come to RFK Stadium at noon on June 29.
- Individual tickets go on sale on March 3 for all games except the one against the Galaxy, which currently can be bought only with season tickets.

not have free agency, United maintained his league rights and could request compensation.

In search of an influential central midfielder to energize his lackluster club, Rapids Coach Fernando Clavijo expressed interest in Gomez in December. Other MLS teams also contacted United, but Colorado was the frontrunner all along, a source said. STEVEN GOFF (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Coming Soon! Spring Arts Preview Section

Wednesday, February 13

Find out how you can Win a **Dream Night Out for Four in the Spring Arts Preview Section!**

The section will include arts & entertainment listings, coverage of must-see attractions coming this spring, and information on how you can win a Dream Night Out for Four, including tickets to a show, dinner and a limousine for the evening.













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Rock Out: DJ Dave Nada, right, and other favorites are sure to turn the 9:30 Club into a large-scale dance fest tonight. | 22





THE PERFECT COUPLE: Even so, "Fool's Gold" is proof that shimmering tans and beachy locks do not a good movie make.

You'd Be a Fool

To waste money on another rom-com rife with cheesy cliches

FILM | There's a moment in "Fool's Gold" when Matthew McConaughey, as a flaky treasure hunter, finds himself stranded in the middle of the ocean, bobbing up and down as he clings to an ice chest, baking in the stillness of the sun and praying that someone will come by and rescue him.

And you're watching him, thinking, "Yeah, I know exactly how he feels."

This painfully lifeless and lame romantic comedy from "Hitch" director Andy Tennant leaves you desperately wishing that someone — anyone — would swoop down and fix it. Pick up the pace, juice up the chemistry, cut out 20 minutes, something. Because, as it stands, there's nothing romantic or comic about it.

McConaughey and Kate Hudson team up for a second time following 2003's formulaic but tolerable "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days." And while they look great individually as they traipse about the Caribbean setting, showing off their tanned, toned bodies, they don't play terribly well off one another.

The script from Tennant, John Claflin and Daniel Zelman has Hudson and McConaughey, as the newly divorced Tess and Finn, awkwardly reconciling when a clue emerges that could lead to the hidden treasure they'd been obsessed with for years. This essentially consists of her hitting him on the head with various objects until she eventually realizes she'd rather make out with him instead. (A running gag about Finn's prowess in the bedroom, and how it still has a hold on Tess, is never particularly funny.)

But first we must go through tediously protracted explanations about the Queen's Dowry, 40 chests of Spanish treasure that were lost at sea in 1715. That's the short version; the way the story is told in "Fool's Gold" will make you dizzy with boredom.

Tess, who works as a steward aboard an enormous yacht owned by billionaire Nigel Honeycutt (Donald Sutherland, slumming it), persuades him to fund the expedition with Finn's help. Nigel has nothing better to do — and, besides, he figures the adventure might provide a chance for him to reconnect with his estranged socialite daughter, Gemma (a shrilly bubble-headed Alexis Dziena), who's reluctantly come to visit.

Meanwhile, Finn must figure out where the treasure is buried before his competitor and former mentor, Moe (Ray Winstone, also slumming it), gets to it first. He's in serious debt to a rapper-gangster known as Bigg Bunny (Kevin Hart), who happens to own the entire island where the gold and jewels might be hidden. CHRISTY LEMIRE (AP)



FOR COMPLETE WEEKEND LISTINGS SEE WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT

I am going on a fifth date with a guy I really like tonight. He's mentioned he likes blues, Motown and R&B. Any suggestions for a fun/nice place or gig to surprise him with? What about Corey Harris at Blues Alley? Harris is a pretty versatile guitarist/musician, who's steeped in blues but touches on a variety of genres. Blues Alley seems like a good fifth date spot, a little more intimate than your usual live music venue.

→ Blues Alley, 1073 Wisconsin Ave. NW; Fri. 8 & 10 p.m., \$25; 202-337-4141.



Ready to sit a little closer? Check out Corey Harris at an intimate venue.

Is there anyplace in the District that plays a basic mix of music (without lines) that you'd recommend for dancing?

I like Ibiza on Thursday/Friday. Good DJs, mix of hip-hop, mashups, rock, a bit of house. For something more intimate — but still with multiple floors and DJs — try Avenue or Ultrabar on Saturday.

- → *Ibiza*, 1222 *First St. NE*; 202-234-9225.
- → Avenue, 649 New York Ave.; 202-247-8100. (Mount Vernon Sq.)
- → Ultrabar, 911 F St. NW; 202-638-4663. (Gallery Place-Chinatown)

The Going Out Gurus think you should get out more. Join the discussion Thursdays at 1 p.m. | washingtonpost.com/liveonline

Sporadically Wild, Wild West

Vince Vaughn and co. have trouble keeping the energy on high

FILM | "Vince Vaughn's Wild West Comedy Show: 30 Days & 30 Nights — Hollywood to the Heartland" is only sometimes wild, but it does indeed go through some Western states. It also ends up feeling about as long and draggy as the title itself.

Vaughn had a clever idea, though, in amassing a group of little-known

comics and taking them across the country, hitting cities between Los Angeles and Chicago like Lubbock, Texas and Little Rock, Ark.

We get to know the divergent personalities of Ahmed Ahmed, John Caparulo, Bret Ernst and Sebastian Maniscalco both onstage and on the tour bus.

Ahmed, who was born in Egypt but moved with his family to California when he was an infant, draws biting humor from his experiences living as an Arab in the United



A softer side of the normally smarmy comedian is revealed on Vaughn's tour.

States post-Sept. 11. The acerbic Caparulo, with his rapid-fire delivery, finds inspiration in his working-class Ohio upbringing.

And Vaughn himself shows his humble, vulnerable side, something we rarely see from the star of "Wedding Crashers," who's made his name with smart-alecky wit. The tour, which took place during fall 2005, includes a stop at a shelter for victims of Hurricane Katrina, which also provides an unlikely heavy turn. CHRISTY LEMIRE (AP)

Woman Among Men

Mo'Nique holds her own with the boys in 'Roscoe Jenkins'

Q&A | Shinning brightly against an all-star cast of male counterparts - lead by Martin Lawrence and including comedy heavyweights Cedric the Entertainer and Mike Epps — Baltimore-bred comedienne Mo'Nique admits her latest role, as the jocular Betty in "Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins," isn't too far removed from her own personality." With one exception, she notes, "[she hasn't] gone to the prisons to meet the mens and give them God's love." Mo'Nique talked to Express about her "laugh-outloud funny" character and her pinup ambitions.

The set must have been like elementary school recess.

We were on the playground playing. Except the seesaw was a little wider, the sliding board was a little slipperier, and we had to strap ourselves into the swings, but we never went to work.

Was it difficult to hold your own against the boys?

I think for some, when it's male/ female, intimidation can set in, but I've known those guys for over 20



DON'T MESS! Mo'Nigue shows Martin Lawrence who's boss in "Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins," hitting theaters today.

years. So, they know I'm, like, "if you bring your basketball to the court, I promise I'm going to give you a good one-on-one." Maybe a couple elbows, a couple kicks.

So, garnering respect has never been an issue for you?

The respect comes from the audience. People know what makes them laugh. May it be a woman or a man, or may it be a man-woman. That'll tickle your fancy right there by itself.

In school, were you, like, rapid-fire

with the lokes?

I was so grown in school. I'd wear my little skirts and I had my briefcase, honey. And my heels. And they couldn't cuss around me. Now when I see some of them that I went to high school with they be like, "Bitch ... you ... you ... " and we couldn't cuss around you. And I want to apologize because cussing is so good. They say chicken soup is good for the soul. But, baby, cussing keeps your blood pressure down.

What's next for you?

I really want to do Playboy, but Hugh Hefner be tripping. I'm not going to put on no blond wig. I'm just not going to do it. I'm sick of him not returning my calls, downright sick of it. I done called the Playboy mansion 17 times, and he ain't returned none of my calls. That's all right, Hugh. One day.

If I ever talk to Hef, I'll put in a good

I bet he would sell more copies than he ever did in his life. DARONA WILLIAMS (EXPRESS)

Paris is even prettier next to a pallid, wart-ridden girl clad entirely in black!

'Hottie' Is **A**Straight Up Nottie

Hilton and an ugly duckling take shallow to painful new levels

FILM | Really, there's no point in paying to see a movie starring Paris Hilton — she of the platinum blond, extensions and the nonexistent acting range — because you can get exactly what she has to offer for free by turning on a TV infotainment show or visiting gossip Web sites.

In "The Hottie and the Nottie," she once again essentially plays herself, or at least the version of herself she's concocted for public consumption.

This time, Hilton stars as sexpot Cristabel Abbott, who's so massively desirable, men line the beach path where she jogs every day (in slow motion, naturally) with marriage proposals and other wacky expressions of love. Cristabel has an entire walk-in closet devoted entirely to her extensive collection of lingerie. When she practices yoga, the instructor compliments her on the quality of her downward facing dog.

She could have any man she wants, but she refuses to date until her homely best friend June (Christine Lakin) finds a boyfriend.

Director Tom Putnam's movie, which plays like a poor man's Farrelly brothers comedy, is as formulaic as they come. Even before we meet June, we have every reason to believe she's secretly gorgeous, and simply in need of some veneers and a facial wax. (Early on, she resembles Jerri Blank, Amy Sedaris' character from "Strangers With Candy.") CHRISTY LEMIRE (AP)

Crystal Meth in the Middle

Bryan Cranston goes from Malcom's dad to 'Breaking Bad'

SHIFT | Bryan Cranston is tired of laughing. To be fair, really, he's tired of the easy laugh.

Cranston is perhaps most recognized as the hairy father in the harried situational comedy "Malcolm in the Middle." But with AMC's new knockout series "Breaking Bad," he's all but recognizable in the role of a harried father in a hairy situation.

In the show, which airs Sundays at 10 p.m., Walt White (Cranston) lives a mostly beige existence. He's just shy of 50, has a loving, if impatient, wife and a works in a New Mexico high school science department. An everyman if ever there was one, his life is thrown into tumult when he is suddenly diagnosed with lung cancer and the medical bills for his son's cerebral palsy mount.

What to do? Why, return to the lab, of course. The meth lab, that is.

What initially captured my attention [to "Breaking Bad'] is



"Breaking Bad" finds its protagonist in many, um, uncomfortable situations.

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For much more of Express contributor Christopher Correa's conversation with Bryan Cranston, visit us on the Web at readexpress.com. | ONLINE NOW

that this show really shouldn't work," Cranston told Express. "But Walt is a relatively sympathetic character, and people don't have to agree with his choices. They can have the moral dilemma while they watch, which can heighten the drama." CHRISTOPHER CORREA

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Weekend Entertainment

22 | EXPRESS | 02.08.2008 | FRIDAY

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO TONIGHT? BY FRITZ HAHN, RHOME ANDERSON AND DAVID MALITZ

FRIDAY

If you've listened to our newest podcast, you heard a short clip of "Paris, Texas," the new single by New York-based electrofunk outfit 33Hz. The group makes sexy, slinky, dance floor-friendly disco for the 21st century, similar to Chromeo or DJs on France's Ed Banger Records. It's down for yet another big bandsmeet-DJs Blisspop night at THE 9:30 CLUB, with three of our favorite local DJs: Jet-setting hip-hop, electro remix and mashup king Dave Nada, whose turntable skills make him one of D.C.'s best; Will Eastman, who runs the monthly Bliss party at the Black Cat; and DJ Meistro, who mixes hip-hop and reggae bangers at Wonderland Ballroom and Napoleon.

It's a garage rock extravaganza tonight at THE BLACK CAT, highlighted by a rare appearance by the always experimental and prolific Dan Melchior. Melchior is a minor legend in garage rock circles, since he collaborated with Billy Childish and Holly Golightly and also toured with the White Stripes and the Fall. Most bands are considered hard workers if they release an album every other year; if Melchior goes a few months without a new 7-inch single, EP or full-length, his fans start to get worried. Melchior goes beyond



Talib Kweli, for free? True story, if you get to Love before 11 tonight.



BRAGGING RIGHTS: D.C. gets them for DJ Dave Nada, at the 9:30 Club tonight.

the usual "three-chords + distortion + some swagger" formula that many garage bands adhere to, keeping listeners off balance with his bizarro takes on country, blues and folk. Openers the Hall Monitors basically stick to that previously mentioned "three-chords + distortion + some swagger" routine, but we're hard-pressed to find any area bands that do it better. Go to a Hall Monitors show and vou'll be baffled as to why D.C. audiences have a reputation for standing still and looking bored. This is a band that gets the crowd moving. The Breakups and Nunchucks also play.

Talib Kweli's career is proof that a slow burn is the best burn. The erudite lyricist emerged from the '90s indie hip-hop scene and clawed his way into mainstream consciousness with relentless touring, consistent releases and a dedicated approach to tending his fanbase. The great thing about his trajectory is that new listeners who just came aboard with his recent club hit "Hot Thing" could easily grow to love his earliest work with Hi-Tek. You can catch Kweli rocking at LOVE tonight for free if you get there before 11 p.m. Check lovetheclub.com for more details.

SATURDAY

Like so many of the reggae artists finding success in Jamaica these days, Tarrus Riley has deep roots in the music. His father, Jimmy Riley, had hits in the '60s with the vocal group the Uniques before joining Sly Dunbar and Robbie Shakespeare's Taxi label, on which he recorded the certified classic "Love and Devotion." Tarrus got his start in the music business as a DJ, and his warm, rich voice is perfectly suited to switching between deep roots music and smooth lovers' rock; hits like "She's Royal" display hints of both. Riley is appearing at THE **CROSSROADS** Saturday night along with Duane Stephenson and Dean Frasier. It's ostensibly a tribute to "King of Reggae" Bob Marley, but we're more interested in hearing songs from Riley's own catalog.

The Turntables on the Hudson party has been a New York mainstay for 10 years now. Similar to Giant Step, this institution led by DJs Nickodemus and Mariano and percussionist Nappy G has helped blend the funk, jazz, electronic and progressive soul worlds into a landmark event that has been played by everyone who has made or spun a sexy beat in the last decade, from Quantic to Rich Medina to Karsh Kale. The compilations that were born out of this party are also great capsules of this scene. When Nickodemus and Mariano touch down in D.C., EIGHTEENTH STREET LOUNGE is their venue of choice. Be there Saturday night for this major Manhattan groove experience.

New Orleans? Founded in 1718. Cologne, Germany? Founded in 38 B.C. Germans have been celebrating the Lenten Karneval since the 13th century, and today it's one of Europe's biggest street festivals, with parades, huge floats, elaborate costumes, live music — hmm. does this all sound strangely familiar? Get a taste of Karneval Saturday night at THE GERMAN EMBASSY, where a black-tie event includes dancing to a 20-member German band, a performance by a traditional German folk group, a full buffet dinner, open bar with German beer and wine, karaoke, a DJ and more. Tickets are \$120 from Thingstododc.com. Remember to dress up; Masks and costumes are encouraged.

An extended version of "Nightlife Agenda" is always available at www.washingtonpost.com/cityguide

Entertainment Weekend



ATONEMENT (R. 123 minutes) This film version of Ian McEwan's 2002 novel has achieved that to which every literary adaptation should aspire. It's 1935, and the Tallises have gathered for a quiet summer weekend. When Briony observes her beautiful sister. Cecilia (Keira Knightley), suddenly jump into a fountain while the caretaker's son, Robbie (James McAvoy), looks on, Briony doesn't see youthful impetuousness. She sees something forbidden and threatening, which is how she will read and report all that comes later. Those events will take Briony, Cecilia and Robbie to World War II and even the present day, as that summer weekend reverberateS in a series of excruciating twists. How fitting that a novel so devoted to the precision and passionate love of language be captured in a film that is simply too exquisite for words. (AH)

THE BUCKET LIST (PG-13, 97 minutes) The lowest of high concepts, this movie is about two old coots (Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman) with terminal cancer who decide to live out a few last-minute thrills before kicking the bucket. It is professionally made, but the overall sense is of a movie coasting on an obvious and somewhat flimsy premise, to which no one thought to bring much else besides Nicholson and Freeman. Each man is playing his own cliched persona:



PESKY GHOST: Paul Rudd tries to romance Lake Bell despite the interference of his dead ex-fiance in "Over Her Dead Body."

nihilism versus nobility, mischief versus morose introspection, arrested adolescent versus ageless wisdom. No need to explain who is who, which is part of the movie's very tired problem. (JA)

CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R, 96 minutes) Mike Nichols's chronicle of congressman Charlie Wilson's crusade to ram funding through the House Appropriations Committee to supply arms to the Afghan mujaheddin in the early 1980s probably gets the Washington process better than any film since "Advise & Consent" in 1962. Charlie is played by Tom Hanks at his unchallenged but affable best. But the best thing about the film is the speed at which Nichols, from Aaron Sorkin's snarky script, moves the thing along and keeps the cracks wise. And with smart dialogue, Julia Roberts in a bikini and Russian helicopters going boom! It's also short! What's not to love? (SH)

CLOVERFIELD (PG-13,85 minutes) In this thriller, our hero, as such, is Rob (Michael

Stahl-David), who's being given a goingaway party before his new job in Japan starts. Apparently miffed about not having been invited to the soiree, a lumbering-yet-slithering 90-foot tadpole starts lobbing bombs around Lower Manhattan. The destruction of the city is seen through the viewfinder of a partygoer's video camera, and at no time does he fail to keep an image on the screen. Projected on a building-size screen, the movie is a relentless, I-thought-my-eyeballs-were-bleeding exercise in visual disorientation, consisting of dialogue that consists largely of OH, MY GOD?! (JA)

THE EYE (R. 85 minutes) This remake of a 2002 Hong Kong horror film sits in noman's-land between a lowbrow genre terrorizer (it's never that scary) and a high-end ghost story — the kind that would use a big-name director, more high-end effects and — oh, yes — a better script. Jessica Alba brings beauty but no particular brilliance to the central role as a blind, classical violinist (yeah, right) who agrees to a corneal transplant only to learn that she is suffering 3-D hallucinations. She sees people burning and the ghosts of the recently departed, including the previous owner of those corneas. But is she supposed to be seeing dead people or medium-level special effects? (DT)

FIRST SUNDAY (PG-13, 96 minutes) In this by turns trite and mildly amusing B-comedy, Ice Cube and Tracy Morgan play Durell and LeeJohn, Baltimore downand-outers who need quick money and concoct a scheme to rip off their neighborhood church. Once they're inside the house of worship, the movie goes from caper flick to spiritually inflected dramedy, with touches of Agatha Christie thrown in when the money disappears before Durell and LeeJohn can snag it. As tired as this movie is, and as shamelessly as it grovels for laughs, there's a hint of sweetness, and when it succeeds, it's mostly due to terrific casting. (AH)

THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG-13, 120 minutes) Denzel Washington, who directed and stars in this film, turns the tale of how tiny black Wiley College of Marshall, Continued on page 24



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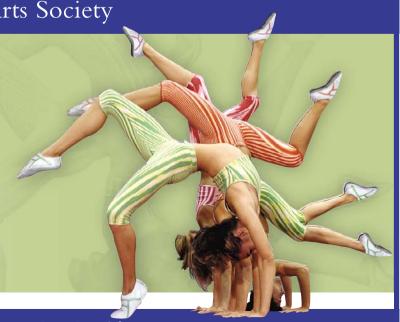
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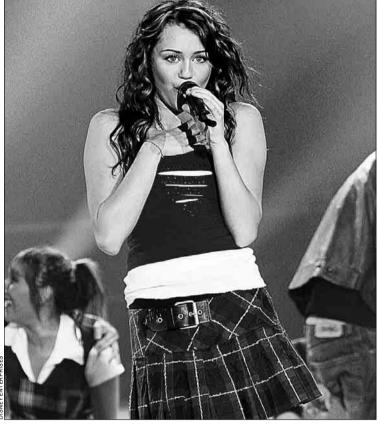
Now Playing

Continued from page 23

Texas, out-argued the white national debate champion in 1935 into a stunner. He plays Mel Tolson, a poet, debate coach, labor organizer and mentor, who coaches Henry (Nate Parker) and three others to a significant assertion of black intellectual chops on a national scale. It's a David and Goliath tale played to the max, all stops removed. It's a great family movie, if not historically perfect, and something that a lot of people are going to like. (SH)

HANNAH MONTANA AND MILEY CYRUS: BEST OF BOTH WORLDS CONCERT 3-D (G,

74 minutes) Clearly, we were expecting too much. Fifteen lousy bucks for this movie (tickets are \$15, even for kids, and even for a matinee), and you still learn nothing about Miley Cyrus and her rock-star alter ego. And it's in 3-D, a gimmick truly on the cutting edge in ... 1953. It is strictly a pastiche of her recent tour. Complaints arose that concert tickets were too pricey and hard to get, and so Disney made this limited-run movie to reach fans robbed of Cyrus' promising vocal ability, affected stage persona and defiantly inarticulate speaking style. And what about those pumped-up dads, seen in the movie, who'll do anything to get tick-



SCREEECH! The noise tween girls make upon seeing the "Hannah Montana" movie.

ets, including racing in high heels? The film makes little of such moments, preferring the bland sheen of the concert.

ADAM BERNSTEIN

HOW SHE MOVE (PG-13, 98 minutes) This

is more sports movie than art movie in which stepping — ensemble dancing to a hip-hop beat — is the art/sport du jour. And the MVP is Raya (Rutina Wesley). Having reluctantly left her elite



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Entertainment Weekend



LESS IS PROFOUND: Simple black and white drawings poignantly detail an Iranian ex-pat's precarious journey in "Persepolis."

Now Playing

private school because her late sister's drug addiction sponged up the family's finances. Rava finds herself in her old. downtrodden Toronto 'hood, facing off with old nemeses including Michelle (Tre Armstrong) and trying to find a way back out. The movie is burdened by a rather mediocre script but boasts some terrific performances. It's a girls-can't-do-it/ girls-can-do-it/girls-do-it/girls-beatthe-boys-at-it movie. (JA)

IAM LEGEND (PG-13, 114 minutes) Based on Richard Matheson's 1954 novel of the same name, this movie is set in New York City in 2012, just after a virus appears to have wiped out the human race, leaving only Robert Neville (Will Smith) with his trusted dog and memories of his wife and daughter. The joy of the movie is watching the slow unfolding of this disaster zone and the likable Smith finding a way to live in it. But instead of maintaining its edgy sense of constant discomfort, the movie is compelled to make Neville as fuzzily adorable and messianic as possible. Heroes work better on their own, thank you, without studio hyperbole. (pt)

JUNO (PG-13, 91 minutes) When whipsmart teenager Juno (Ellen Page) becomes pregnant, the unplanned result of a quick liaison with boyfriend Paulie (Michael Cera), she decides to find a home for her baby. She meets a seemingly slick and perfect yuppie couple (Jennifer Garner and Jason Bateman) who plan to give the child the life that Juno can't. Only superficially a teen comedy,

the movie redounds with postmodern — but emotionally genuine — gravitas. What distinguishes it is its memorable banter among the characters, all of whom feel real. And let's not forget how funny the movie is, too. (DT)

THE KITE RUNNER (PG-13, 122 minutes) Khaled Hosseini's novel has been given the screen adaptation it richly deserves. Gorgeously filmed in California and China (which stands in for Afghanistan), the movie keeps things simple and elegant. Twelve-year-old Amir (Zekeria Ebrahimi) lives in a beautiful house. His best friend is Hassan (Ahmad Khan Mahmidzada), the family servant's son. As the boys do what boys do in Kabul, including flying kites, they are routinely bullied by kids of the privileged sect to which Amir belongs. It's after one of Kabul's cherished "kite fighting" tournaments that Hassan runs afoul of some of those bullies, who brutally rape him. Amir looks on, and the ensuing shame will haunt him the rest of his life. For all the pain and loss, this is still a film of exhilarating, redemptive humanity, conveying enduring hope. (AH)

MAD MONEY (PG-13, 102 minutes) In this caper comedy, Diane Keaton mostly plays it straight as Bridget, an upper-class Kansas City matron who, when her corporate husband falls on hard times, takes a job as a janitor at the Federal Reserve. She notices that the Fed shreds money too old to stay in circulation and persuades single mom Nina (Queen Latifah) and rocker chick Jackie (Katie Holmes) to join with her to "recycle" the bills straight into their own bank accounts. The movie possesses its share of modest laughs, but it doesn't have the dash

needed to make it a comic heist on par with "Ocean's Eleven." And once Bridget gets just plain greedy, all rooting interest in her scheme disappears like so many pulped Benjamins. (AH)

MEET THE SPARTANS (PG-13,84 minutes) It's common practice among film critics to dub each unspeakable turkey "the worst movie ever made!" But in the case of this movie, it may actually be true. A takeoff on "300," it's also a satirical survey of recent cultural phenomena: Think "Scary Movie" for the gladiator set. But this bore-fest is a parody of things that can't be parodied. How do you puncture the dignity of Paris Hilton? Or satirize "America Idol," which is a satire already? Punctuated by the most shameless series of product placements, gay-bashing "humor" and explosions of body fluids, it looks as if it were made for \$14. (JA)

MICHAEL CLAYTON (R, 119 minutes) From its hushed opening sequences in a Manhattan law office late at night to its sleek, pared - down narrative style, this uncommonly intelligent thriller evokes the great films of the 1970s that managed to elicit gritty urban realism while maintaining a suave sense of style and moral complexity. George Clooney plays the title character, a "fixer" at a white shoe law firm, who finds himself enmeshed in a web of corporate intrigue, personal financial straits, madness and murder. The movie marks a return to the screen of intelligence, taste and class, Halleluiah. and hire the babysitter: It's grown-up time again at the movies. (AH)

NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SE-CRETS (PG, 120 minutes) Benjamin Continued on page 26

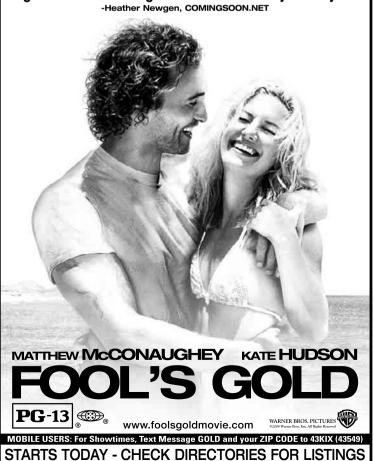




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Continued from page 25

Franklin Gates is a movie hero of the old school, a dashing treasure hunter with an obsessive interest in American history. Played by Nicolas Cage in the 2004 hit "National Treasure," Gates emerged as a new kind of leading man, one with the brains of Stephen Ambrose and the brawn of Indiana Jones. Cage is back in crackling good form in this sequel, which finds Gates trying to disprove an unpleasant twist in his vaunted family history. It's clear that everyone involved in this



BEHIND YOU! Steve Zahn wonders where the danger is in "Strange Wilderness."

MARTIN

movie is having fun, and with expectations properly managed, the audience will, too. (AH)

NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (R, 120 minutes) Derived from the Cormac McCarthy novel of the same name, this high-end "literary" thriller traffics as much in ideas as in thrills, sometimes to its own detriment. It follows as a Vietnam vet (Josh Brolin) out antelope-hunting comes across a Texas drug deal gone bad. Bodies, guns, blood, flies and folly are everywhere on the arid plains. Each figure is given, a la standard thriller operating procedure, a single moral or psychological attribute and then acts in accordance to that principle and noth-

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ing else. It's meant to be "ironic," with that big capital I. Instead it's unsatisfying, with a capital U. (sн)

THE ORPHANAGE (R, 100 minutes) This movie, Spain's official entry for Best Foreign Language Film at this year's Academy Awards, is set in a former orphanage where one of its old charges, Laura (Belén Rueda), was raised. Now grown, she intends to turn the institution into a home for special-needs children. But when her son disappears, she becomes convinced that the ghosts of her traumatic school days have returned to capture him. The film lures us in with extraordinary subtlety. Keeping sound effects and incidental music to a relative minimum, it builds its suspense almost subliminally. So, when something scary or shocking does occur - deprived of those Hollywood-style cues — we are truly startled. (DT)

OVER HER DEAD BODY (PG-13, 95 minutes) This is, one supposes, Eval ongoria Parker's movie, although the "Desperate Housewives" star is uncategorically eclipsed by her co-star, Lake Bell, and plays the least sympathetic figure in the movie. Wearing a crescendo of hair and enough bronzer to alter the complexion of Finnish Lapland, Parker's Kate march-



THE UNHAPPY COUPLE: Julie Benz and Sylvester Stallone rough it in "Rambo."

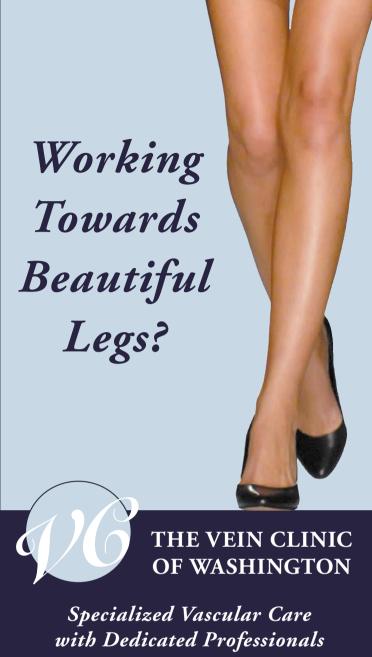
es around the site of her pending nuptials with all the cuddliness of Otto von Bismarck, Then a 500-pound ice sculpture lands on her, sending her to the antechamber of paradise. She then returns to demolish her dear, near-widower's love life. None of it makes sense — logically. emotionally or dramatically. (JA)

PERSEPOLIS (PG-13, 95 minutes) The unusual format in Marjane Satrapi's film is not that it's in black-and-white (though it is), not that it's based on a graphic novel (it is), but that it's animated. Satrapi, with co-director Vincent Paronnaud, has taken her work and turned it into a vigorous, revealing and tragic film. The film

pretty much stays with three women -Satrapi, her mother (voiced by Catherine Deneuve) and her grandmother (Danielle Darrieux) — through the upheavals of recent Iranian history. This is good old cel animation, where things are simply drawn and immensely suggestive, and the movie, while no fun, faces hard truths and asks hard questions. (SH)

THE PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING

- A VEGGIETALES MOVIE (G. 84 minutes) This umpteenth entry in the 15-year-old animated franchise and the first to forsake the Bible for Robert Louis Stevenson. is clever enough to keep adults enter-Continued on page 28



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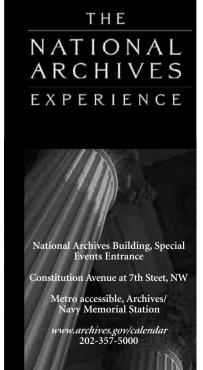
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THE EYE (PG-13)
12:00, 2:30, 5:05, 7:30, 10:30
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12:25, 2:50, 5:20, 8:26, 4:20.25 12:25, 2:50, 5:20, 8:05, 10:25 THERE WILL BE BLOOD (R) 12.30, 4.35, 8.10 STRANGE WILDERNESS (R) **

RAMBO (R) 12:15, 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:10 UNTRACEABLE (R) UNITACEABLE (R) 11:55, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55, 10:35 MEET THE SPARTANS (PG-13) 11:40, 2:35, 4:45, 7:05, 9:45 NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (R)

9.20 CLOVERFIELD (PG-13) 5:55, 9:35 **27 DRESSES (PG-13)** 1:00 4:25, 7:20, 10:20 ATONEMENT (R) THE BUCKET LIST (PG-13)

3:50, 9:40 THE PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING: A VEGGIE TALES MOVIE (G) A VEGGIE TALES MIOVIE (11:30, 2:10 JUNO (PG-13) 12:50, 3:35, 6:30, 9:10 NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) 11:20, 3:05, 6:15 **ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS (PG)** 11:10, 1:40, 4:00

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WELCOME HOME ROSCOE ENKINS (PG-13) JENKINS (PG-13)
11:45, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:40
*FOOL'S GOLD (PG-13)
11:30, 12:35, 2:05, 3:45, 5:00, 6:45,
7:45, 9:30, 10:30
*THE EYE (PG-13)
11:50, 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45
RAMBO (R)
12:10, 3:10, 7:35, 10:00
JUNO (PG-13)
12:50, 3:20, 6:40, 9:05 12:50, 3:30, 6:40, 9:05 **ATONEMENT (R)** 7.20, 10.05 CLOVERFIELD (PG-13) 4:25, 9:50 H:25, 9:50 NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10 UNTRACEABLE (R) 12:30, 3:50, 7:05, 9:25 12.30, 3.50, 7.05, 9.25 27 DRESSES (PG-13) 11:35, 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 10:15 THERE WILL BE BLOOD (R)

1:00, 6:35 ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) 1:15, 4:15 ***STRANGE WILDERNESS (R)** 12:45, 3:25, 6:05, 10:35 **MAD MONEY (PG-13)**

*OVER HER DEAD BODY (PG-13) THE BUCKET LIST (PG-13) 12.20, 3:50, 7:00, 9:20 HOW SHE MOVE (PG-13)

MEET THE SPARTANS (PG-13) 11:55, 2:10, 4:20, 6:50, 9:00

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12:40, 6:40 THE SAVAGES (R) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:55 TAXI TO THE DARK SIDE (R) 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:30

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(11:35,2:35),5:00)), /.25, *THE EYE (PG-13) UNTRACEABLE (R) (11:45,2:20),4:30)), 7:30,**10:05 HOW SHE MOVE (PG-13) (11:50,2:25),4:50)), 7:15,**9:30 RAMBO (PG-13) (12:00,2:30),4:35)), 7:10,**9:25 FIRST SUNDAY (PG-13)

JUNO (PG-13) (11:55,2:15),4:25)), 7:45,**10:00

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Continued from page 27

tained, even if the story is something of an antique. Dynastic intrigue. Adventure at sea. Imperiled maidens. Pirates who say "Arrrrrr." Longtime fans know that the veggies play different roles in each story. In this one, the Helpseeker takes them. via magical rowboat, to the 1600s. The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything don't, in fact, do much. But at least they won't raise your cholesterol. (JA)

RAMBO (R, 95 minutes) This movie, which marks Sylvester Stallone's fourth appearance as the bow-bending angel of death, urges us to appreciate the miserable plight of the Burmese, just before our laconic hero kills, maims and — in one gruesome shot — decapitates them. Of course, the movie presents John Rambo's wholesale killing as a response to social injustice. He's icing the bad Burmese who rape women, torch babies and force their victims to run through mine-rigged rice fields. But Rambo's motivation seems more psychotic than noble. No longer is he killing for a cause, but for kicks. (DT) STRANGE WILDERNESS (R, 87 minutes)

This movie, starring Steve Zahn, occupies a very special place indeed — at the dead bottom of the stoner comedy pile. And nestled down there with it is Zahn as Peter, a wildlife host who takes off on a search for Bigfoot to save his beleaguered wildlife nature show from getting the ax. If you can imagine "Dumb & Dumber" as a road trip through the Mexican jungle with characters who make Beavis and Butt-head seem sophisticated, that's only part of it. Add the "twist" that the movie, which also features Allen Covert, Jonah Hill and Ashlev Scott, is not funny. Not. At. All. (DT)

THERE WILL BE BLOOD (R, 158 minutes) Based very loosely on the novel "Oil!" by Upton Sinclair, this film stars Daniel Day-Lewis as a miner named Daniel Plainview, who while digging for gold and silver in Southern California in the late 1890s discovers oil. The movie traces his rise as an independent oilman, his fight with Standard Oil, his relationship with his adopted son and his feud with an ambitious young preacher. It is a masterful cinematic achievement, and it's another astonishing performance from Day-Lewis, who in the film's silent opening moments even breathes with eerie authenticity, (AH)

27 DRESSES (PG-13, 107 minutes) In this romantic comedy, Katherine Heigl plays Jane, a hardworking Manhattan administrative assistant who gives new meaning to "always a bridesmaid." Turns out

Now Playing

the movie's title refers to the number of weddings in which she has served in that thankless capacity, including two that, in a preposterous early sequence, occur on the same night. It's during that illogical series of scenes that Jane meets Kevin (James Marsden), who begins to pursue her even though she's in love with her boss (Edward Burns). There is not one surprising, charming or quirky thing about the movie, which hews to the rom-com formula with bland precision. But don't blame Heigl, who has a bright big-screen future with the right material. (AH)

U2 3D (G, 85 minutes) The first digital 3-D, multi-camera production of a live event, this film captures the band U2 at its finest during the last leg of its "Vertigo" tour of South America in 2006. With three-dimensional digital images and surround sound that make you feel as though you're literally poking your head into another world, this movie is not the next best thing to being there. In many ways, it's better: the atmospheric immer-



GOOD, BAD AND SCARY: "The Eye," starring Jessica Alba, is somewhere between B-list horror and well-crafted ghost story.

sion of being with an adoring crowd, yet not stifled by it, and the intimacy of pristine, intimate images of Bono and bandmates (nt)

UNTRACEABLE (R. 100 minutes) Diane Lane stars as Jennifer Marsh, a widowed

cyber-crime expert with the FBI living with her mother and young daughter. From its very first scene, this isn't the sophisticated, brainy thriller it so nearly could have been, but just another movie about a serial murderer, in this case a

deranged computer whiz who kidnaps people, drags them to a basement and then tortures them, uploading the images to a Web site. The more people who log on, the faster the victim dies. As the movie descends into the progressively more perverted territory, it begins to practice the very hypocrisy it condemns in its audience, engaging in the rancid voyeurism it pretends to abhor. (AH)

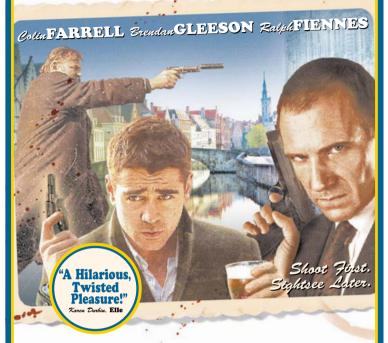
SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET (R, 116 minutes) With oceans of gore, rivers of luscious musicality and a bravura performance by Johnny Depp redolent of malevolence and magnetism, Tim Burton brings Stephen Sondheim's 1979 musical to the screen with a visual style informed by a truly cinematic feel for Grand Guignol. The added marvel is that the director has crafted a version of a stage musical that completely honors the source without being slavishly devoted to it. And although most of the voices Burton employs to interpret the operatic songs belong to actors rather than to singers, Sondheim's music some of the most exquisite he has ever composed — does not seem to suffer. PETER MARKS

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EYE (PG-13)
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ACEABLE (R) - ID REQ'D
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HER DEAD BODY (PG-13)
SHE MOVE (PG-13)
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UNTRACEABLE (R): ID REC'D (1110.145.415) 645.930

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UNDO (9C4-13) (1120 140 110) 650 920
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THE EYE (PG-13)

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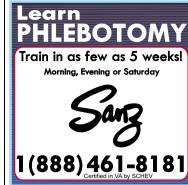
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VINCE VAUGN'S WILL WEST LOWIND STATUT (19) (12-25), 340, 6-15, 9:00, 11:35 WELCOME HOME ROSCOE JENKINS (PG13) (10:00, 11:30 @ \$6), 100, 2:30, 4:00, 5:30, 7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 10:00, 10:45, 11:30 @ \$6), 11:30 (11:30 @ \$6), 12:30,

TRANGE WILDERNESS (N) (1013 © 85), 12:30, 2:40, 4:55, 7:20, 4:40, 11:55
EEET THE SPARTANS (PG13) 1:20, 3:35, 5:55, 8:20, 10:35
[IGHAEL CLAYTON (R) (10:50 © 85), 5:05, 11:15
AMBO (R) 12:10, 2:25, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30, 11:50

TRTRACEABLE (R) (10:55 © 86), 1:50, 4:30, 7:35, 10:05
TORESSES (PG13) (10:46 © 86), 1:26, 4:10, 6:55, 9:50
LOVERFIELD (PG13) (10:10 © 86), 1:20, 2:35, 4:45, 7:05, 9:15, 11:20
AD MONEY (PG13) (11:10 © 85), 4:05, 9:05
HE BUCKET LIST (PG13) (2:15, 7:50
IRST SUNDAY (PG13) 3:10, 5:45, 8:25, 11:10
ATOMAL TREASORIE: BOW OF SECRETS (PG 11:20 © 85), 4:40, 10:30

E SUCKET LIST (164 3) 2-15, 750

STS SUNDAY (164 3) 3-10, 5-46, 2-55, 11-10

IONAL TREASURE: BONK OF SECRETS (165) (11-20 @ 56), 4-40, 10-30

JUN AND THE CHIPMUNUS, (196) (10-25 @ 56), 1-30, 4:10

COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (16) 6-40, 10-10

ONEMENT (8) 1-148, 8-05

NO (PG13) (10-20 @ 56), 1:10, 4-35, 7-25, 9-55

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WELCOINE HOME ROSCOS JENKINS (PG13) \(\times \) 2:15, 5:05, 7:50, 10:35
THE EYE (PG13) \(\times \) 135, 5:05, 7:50, 10:35 WELDMIE HOME ROSCOE JENKINS (PG13) / 2:15,5:05,7:50
THE ETY (PG13) / 12:05,25,4:50,7:15,9:05
OVER HER DEAD BODY (PG13) / 3:25,6:05
STRANGE WILDERNESS (R) / 1:40,3:45,5:55,8:15,10:25
RAMBO (R) 1:05,5:45,10:20
UNTRACEABLE (R) 12:10,2:40,5:10,7:45,10:15
Z7 DRESSES (PG13) 1:85,4:30,7:10,9:55
Z7 DRESSES (PG13) 1:85,4:30,7:10,9:55
CLOVERFIELD (PG13) 1:20,2:30,4:40,6:50,9:00,11:00
CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) 12:00,2:20,4:55,7:25,10:10

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O COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (R) 1:50, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40 HERE WILL BE BLOOD (R) 2:00, 5:10, 8:10 ONEMENT (R) 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30 IE DIVING BELL AND THE BUTTERFLY (PG13) 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40

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FOUL'S GOLD (PGI 3) (11:30 @ Sh. 20), 5:10, 8:00, 10:50
WELCOME HOME ROSCOE JENNINS (PGI 3) (10:33 @ Sh), 12:10, 120, 2:50, 4:10, 5:40, 7:40, 8:30, 9:50, 11:15
WHE E'FE (PGI 3) (10:40 @ Sh, 1:10, 3:40, 6:10, 8:40, 11:10
OVER HER DEAD BODY (PGI 3) 12:20, 2:40, 5:35, 7:40, 10:30
STRANGE WILDERNESS (R) (10:25 @ Sh), 12:30, 2:35, 5:50, 7:20, 9:3
MEET THE SPARTAINS (PGI 3) (11:45 @ Sh), 2:30, 4:15, 6:30, 6:30, 11:35
MEET THE SPARTAINS (PGI 3) (11:45 @ Sh), 2:30, 4:15, 6:30, 6:30, 11:35
RAMBO (PM), 1:10 @ Sh), 1:30, 4:55, 6:30, 6:30, 11:35
RAMBO (PM), 1:10 @ Sh), 1:30, 4:55, 7:10, 1:50
ZUVERFIELD (PGI 3) (1:10 @ Sh), 1:30, 3:45, 6:30, 8:20, 1:35
THE BUCKET LIST (PGI 3) (1:10 @ Sh), 1:30, 4:20, 5:50, 9:20

JUNO (PGI 3) (10:20 @ Sh), 1:24, 3:35, 5:35, 8:10, 10:40

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OOL'S GOLD (PG13) ✓ 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 PELCOME HOME ROSCOE JENKINS (PG13) ✓ 12:00, 2:30, 5:00,

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OOL'S GOLD (PG13) ✓ (10:40 @ \$6), 12:10, 1:30, 2:50, 4:10, 5:30, 8:10, 9:30, 10:50 650, 8:10, 9:30, 10:50

"INDEX VALUES WILD WEST COMEDY SHOW (R) ✓ (10:45 @ S6),
1:20, 3:45, 6:10, 8:40, 11:05

"RELCOME HOME ROSCOE JENKINS (PG13) ✓ (11:00 @ S6),
1:220, 1:50, 3:10, 4:30, 5:50, 7:10, 8:30, 9:50, 11:10

WELCOME HOME ROSCOE JENKINS ("G13) □ □ ✓ 12:20, 3:10, 5:50, 8:30, 1:10

THE EYE ("PG13) ✓ (10:50 @ 86), 11:15, 3:40, 6:15, 8:45, 11:10

THE EYE ("PG13) ✓ (10:50 @ 86), 11:15, 3:40, 6:15, 8:45, 11:10

OVER HER DEAD BOUY (PG13) ✓ (11:10 @ 86), 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:25

STRANGE WILDERNESS (R) ✓ 1:10, 5:50, 10:25

MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) 4:05, 7:05, 10:05

RAMBO (R) (10:55 @ 85), 3:30, 8:00

UNITRACEMELE (R) (1):35 @ 86, 2:35, 4:35, 7:20, 9:55

ZICHON (PG13) (10:55 @ 85), 2:35, 4:35, 7:20, 9:55

ZICHON (PG13) (10:55 @ 85), 2:36, 8:35, 1:30, 3:35

THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) (11:25 @ 85), 1:30

MAC SELECT (S) (10:50 @ 80), 1:30

NO COUNTRY OR OLD MER (R) 10:35 PM

THERE WILL BE BLOOD (R) (11:20 @ 86), 2:40, 6:40, 10:00

ATONEMENT (R) (10:40 @ 86), 2:10, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40

THE SAVAGES (R) ✓ (11:45 @ 85), 2:30, 5:10, 7:55, 10:30

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405, 506, 6:07, 00, 8:00, 6:5, 9:50, 10:35
THE EYE (PGI 3) 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
HOW SHE MOVE (PGI 3) 12:15, 2:35, 4:55, 7:20, 9:55
MEET THE SPARTANS (PGI 3) 1:05, 3:10, 5:40, 8:10, 10:15
MET THE SPARTANS (PGI 3) 6:20, 7:30, 10:00
CLOVERFIELD (PGI 3) 8:05, 7:30, 10:00
CLOVERFIELD (PGI 3) 8:05, 7:15, 9:40
HOME (PGI 3) 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40
HOME (PGI 3) 8:25, 22, 4:5, 5:15, 7:45, 10:05
THE GREAT DEBATERS (PGI 3) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNISC (PG) 12:35, 3:30, 5:30

AMC POTOMAC MILLS 18 2700 Potomac Mills Circle, Ste 886

DIGITAL 3D

HANNAH MONTANA & MILEY CYRUS: BEST OF BOTH WORLDS CONCERT DISNEY DIGITAL 3D \$15 (G) \(\times\) 10:30, 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 FOOL'S GOLD (PG13 \(\times\) (10:40, 11:40 @ 86), 1:30, 2:30, 4:20, 5:20, 7:10, 8:10, 10:00, 10:55 THE HOTTIE & THE NOTTIE (PG13) \(\times\) (10:15 @ 86), 12:35, 3:05, 5:40, 8:15, 10:35

THE NOTTIE & THE NOTTIE (PG13) ✓ (10.15 @ \$6), 12.35, 3.05, 5.40, 815, 10.35

WINCE VAUGHY'S WILD WEST COMEDY SHOW (R) ✓ (10:00 @ \$6), 12.25, 25, 55.38, 80.5, 10-40

WELLOME HOME ROSCOE JENKINS (PG13) ✓ (10:35, 11:30 @ \$6), 12:20, 1:20, 2:20, 3:10, 4:10, 5:10, 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 9:50, 10:00, 9:00

WELCOME HOME ROSCOE JENKINS (PG13) ☑ (EØ) ✓ (12:0), 2:10, 6:00, 9:00

WELCOME HOME ROSCOE JENKINS (PG13) ☑ (EØ) ✓ (12:0), 2:10, 6:00, 9:00

THE EYE (PG13) ✓ (1:11, 6: \$8, 15:5, 4:30, 7:05, 9:35

OVER HER DEAD BODY (PG13) ✓ (11:25 @ \$6), 2:00, 6:25, 6:55, 9:20

STRANGE WILDERMESS (R) ✓ (11:50 @ \$6), 1:215, 2:35, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55

RAMBO (R) (10:10 @ \$6), 1:23, 0:25, 6:25, 7:55, 10:25

UNITAGEABLE (R) (11:45 @ \$6), 2:15, 4:45, 7:35, 10:10

Z7 DRESSES (PG13) (11:35 @ \$6), 2:10, 5:315, 5:30, 7:40, 10:05

THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) (2:25, 7:25) (2:25)

FIRST SUNDAY (PG13) (10:45 @ \$6), 2:10, 5:315, 5:30, 7:40, 10:05

THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 2:25, 7:15

FIRST SUNDAY (PG13) 1:20, 4:50, 9:40

NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (P6) 2:00, 7:20

JUNO (PG13) (11:10 @ \$6), 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:25

AMC COURTHOUSE PLAZA 8 Courthouse and Birch Rd. 703-998-4AMC

VINCE VAUGN'S WILD WEST COMEDY SHOW (R) ✓ 12:00. 2:15.

VINCE VAUGH'S WILL WEST CONTROL 300.

THE EYE (PG13) ✓ 12:05, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20

STRANGE WILDERNESS (R) ✓ 12:20, 5:30, 10:20

MEET THE SPARTANS (PG13) 12:50, 2:50, 5:10, 7:10, 9:30

UNTRACEABLE (R) 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40, 10:00

THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 12:40, 3:10, 5:35, 7:50, 10:10

THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 12:40, 3:10, 5:35, 7:50, 10:10

THE REPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF

AMC TYSONS CORNER 16 7850 Tysons Corner Center 703-998-4262

DIGITAL 3D

HANNAH MONTANA & MILEY CYRUS: BEST OF BOTH WORLDS CONCERT DISNEY DIGITAL 3D \$15 (G) ✓ 10:30, 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45, 11:55

UVER HEN DEAD BUDY (PE13) \(\sigma \) (10:05 \(\pi \) 85), 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55, 10:30 \)
STRANGE WILDERNESS (R) \(\sigma \) 5:20, 7:40, 10:00, 12:15 \)
MEET THE SPARTANS (P613) (1:10:0 \(\pi \) 85), 1:10, 3:35, 5:50, 8:05, 10:15 \)
MEET THE SPARTANS (P613) (1:10:0 \(\pi \) 85), 1:10, 3:35, 5:50, 8:05, 10:15 \)
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) (10:40 \(\pi \) 85, 4:20, 10:20 \)
RAMBO (R) (10:35 \(\pi \) 85), 1:10, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:25, 12:45 \)
UNITRACEABLE (R) (10:10 \(\pi \) 85), 1:230, 3:415, 7:10, 9:55 \)
CLOVERFIELD (P613) (10:15 \(\pi \) 85), 1:230, 4:15, 7:10, 9:55 \)
CLOVERFIELD (P613) (10:15 \(\pi \) 85), 1:230, 4:55, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40, 12:00 \)
THE BUCKET LIST (P613) (11:20 \(\pi \) 85, 4:50, 10:10 \)
NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (P9) 1:50, 7:15, 12:35 \)
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (P6) (10:30 \(\pi \) 85), 1:250, 3:05

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMONS (PG) (10:30 @ 50, 12:30, 24:

AMC MAZZA GALLERIE Jenifer and Wisconsin 202-537-9553



Wednesday, February 13

Find out how you can Win a **Dream Night Out for Four in the Spring Arts Preview Section!**

The section will include arts & entertainment listings, coverage of must-see attractions coming this spring, and information on how you can win a Dream Night Out for Four, including tickets to a show, dinner and a limousine for the evening.

Don't miss the

Spring Arts Preview Section in Express

on Wednesday, February 13 to find out how to win!





HOW MUCH LUCY IS TOO MUCH? Trick question! There's no such thing as too much Lucy, which is why everyone should be pumped about "Ricky Loves Lucy Valentine's Day," four episodes that will air on Feb. 10 and Feb. 14 on TV Land.

ON TV THIS WEEKEND

'LOST' WITH LEMURS

Hooked on "Meerkat Manor"? Don't miss **LEMUR KINGDOM** (8 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., Animal Planet, Fri.), the lifeand-death struggles of two bands of masked primates on a small patch of the island of Madagascar.

COLLEGIATE ATHLETE?

Reeling from recent setbacks, Smash receives a surprise offer on **FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS** (9 p.m., NBC, Fri.).

ORGAN SWAP

A medical mystery may require a transplant on **HOUSE** (9 p.m., Fox, Fri.).

GERVAIS HUMOR

Tired of comedy repeats? Don't miss **FREE RADIO** (9:30 p.m., VH1, Fri.), a loosely scripted improvisational comedy combining the cracked logic of "The

Office" and the celebrity cameo appeal of "Extras."

LOVERS QUARREL

Paul and Gina disagree on **IN TREATMENT** (9:30 p.m., HBO, Fri.).

FOR THE NIGHT OWLS

A drug charge leads to a horrible stint in a Turkish prison in the harrowing 1978 drama **MIDNIGHT EXPRESS** (4 a.m., TCM,



LADY AND THE BUTLER: Fiennes and Sarandon in "Bernard and Doris."

Sat.), based on a script by then-unknown Oliver Stone.

REHAB? YES, YES, YES

TRUE HOLLYWOOD STORY (6 p.m., E!, Sat.) profiles the troubled pop star Amy Winehouse.

WEALTH AND SCANDAL

BERNARD AND DORIS (8 p.m., HBO, Sat.) is a made-for-TV drama is based on the much-reported story of billionaire heiress Doris Duke (Susan Sarandon) and her butler, Bernard Lafferty (Ralph Fiennes). Lafferty's name figured prominently in Duke's will, and some suspect that he slowly killed her with drugs as he kept her isolated from the outside world.

PEANIIT I OVE

A little red-haired girl looms large in the 2002 special **A CHARLIE BROWN VALENTINE** (8 p.m., ABC, Sat.).

BLAST FROM THE PAST

A visitor from the trenches of 1918 on

TORCHWOOD (9 p.m., BBC America, Sat.).

IN MOURNING

Heath Ledger stars in the title role of the underrated 2005 period piece **CASANOVA** (10 p.m., Bravo, Sat.), co-starring Sienna Miller, Jeremy Irons, Oliver Platt and Lena Olin.

GLOBAL WARNING

The two-hour special **SIX DEGREES COULD CHANGE THE WORLD** (8 p.m., National Geographic, Sun.) goes spanning the globe to demonstrate how atmospheric warming has already wrought climate change.

BIG WINNERS, BIG LOSERS

Musicians perform and salute their own on **THE 50TH ANNUAL GRAMMY AWARDS** (8 p.m., CBS, Sun.).

MANY MISS BENNETTS

"Masterpiece Theatre" (9 p.m., PBS, Sun.) repeats the 1995 miniseries ver-



FRONT-RUNNER: Kanye West leads the pack in Grammy noms this year.

sion of **PRIDE & PREJUDICE**, orginally seen on A&E. Some see Colin Firth as the best Mr. Darcy ever.

HIGH AND LOW

Marlo and Chris search for Omar on **THE WIRE** (9 p.m., HBO, Sun.). KEVIN MCDONOUGH
(UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

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2.8.08	6:00 PM	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
WRC 4	News (N) 🚾		NBC Nightly News		1 vs. 100 (N) 🕦 🚾		Friday Night Lights	· ,	Las Vegas "Win, Pla	ace, Bingo" (N) 🕦	News (N) CC	Tonight Show
WTTG 5	News (N)	TMZ (N) O CC	The Simpsons ()	Seinfeld () CC	Bones "A Boy in a B		House "Sleeping Do	<u> </u>	News (N)		News (N)	TMZ () CC
WJLA 7	News (N) 🚾	ABC Wld News	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Grey's Anatomy ()		(:02) Desperate Ho		(:02) 20/20 (N) CC		News (N) ©	(:35) Nightline (N)
WUSA 9	News (N) 🚾	Evening News	News	Entertainment	Ghost Whisperer "		Moonlight "Arreste		NUMB3RS "Thirtee		News (N) 🚾	Late Show
WDCA 20	Judge Judy (N) 🕦		King of Queens	King of Queens		" (2006, Drama) Magg				King of the Hill ()		
WMPT 22	The NewsHour Wit	. ,	Business Rpt.	State Circle	Inside Wash.	_	Bill Moyers Journa	` '		iurder near a family es		Smart Travels
WETA 2	BBC World News		The NewsHour Wi		Washington Week		Bill Moyers Journa	` '		Soul of Justice: Th	elton Henderson	Charlie Rose (N)
WHUT 32	White House	Tavis Smiley ()	BBC World News	Moneywise	Eve. Exchange	To the Contrary	History Detectives	s () CC	BBC World News	Tavis Smiley ()	Charlie Rose (N) ()	CC
WDCW 50	My Wife and Kids	Family Guy 🚾	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	WWE Friday Night	SmackDown! (N) (CC		Friends () CC	Friends 🛈 🚾	Family Guy 🚾	Sex and the City
A&E	Cold Case Files Mo	bile home murder.	CSI: Miami "Felony	Flight" 🕜 🚾	CSI: NY "Manhatta	n Manhunt" 🚾	CSI: Miami "Shoote	out" 🕦 🚾	CSI: Miami "Cop Ki	iller" ∩ 🚾	CSI: Miami "One Ni	ght Stand" 🚾
Animal	The Crocodile Hun	ter 🚾	Prehistoric Park "	nsects" CC	Lemur Kingdom	Lemur Kingdom	Orangutan Island	Escape to Chimp E	den	Clinically Wild	Lemur Kingdom	Lemur Kingdom
BET	106 & Park: BET's T	Top 10 Live Top 10 cour	ntdown. (N)	Hell Date CC	*** "The Color F	Purple" (1985) Whoopi	Goldberg. Based on A	Alice Walker's portrait	of a rural black womar). CC	Hell Date CC	Hell Date ©
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Comedy	(4:30) ★★★ "Nurse	Betty" (2000)	Scrubs () CC	Scrubs () CC	Daily Show	Colbert Report	Futurama ©	Futurama CC	ComPresents	ComPresents	ComPresents	ComPresents
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	Cash Cab ©	Cash Cab ©	How It's Made	How It's Made	Survivorman CC		Man vs. Wild ©	1	Fight Quest "Korea"		Fight Quest Savate	
DISCH	Code Blue Car-cras	h iniuries. 🚾	Trauma: Life in the	ER ©	Diagnosis X Unexp	lained paralysis.	Life or Death ©		Skeleton Stories "/		Diagnosis X Unexpl	•
Disney	Zack & Cody	Zack & Cody	Hannah Montana			Little" (2005) Voices of	1	Phineas and Ferb		Life With Derek		Hannah Montana
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Family	8 Simple Rules	8 Simple Rules				arrymore. A reporter p			America's Funnies	1	The 700 Club ©	
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Lifetime	Reba 🛈 🚾	Reba () CC		Still Standing ()	Reba () CC	Reba () ©	Good Naked	Good Naked	Top Party: Orange			Will & Grace ()
MTV	Beauty and the Ge		Beauty and the Ge		Beauty and the Ge			esents: America's B		Real World Road		Jackass Race. ()
NICK	SpongeBob		Ned's School	Zoey 101 ©	Back, Barnyard	Avatar-Last Air	Tigre: Rivera	Tak and Power		George Lopez ()		Home Improve.
SCIFI	Stargate SG-1 "Der		Chuck "Chuck Versi		Flash Gordon "Rev		Stargate Atlantis		Stargate Atlantis		Flash Gordon "Revo	
SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene I		CSI: Crime Scene		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation () Prisoners Out of Control () (C)		, ,		Disorderly Conduct: Video on Patrol			
TBS	Friends () CC		Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond				1	Damon, Franka Potente		Sex and the City
TLC	Property Ladder ©		Take Home Chef		Say Yes to the Dre		What Not to Wear		10 Years Younger Fri		What Not to Wear S	
TNT	Law & Order "Deep		Law & Order "Empi					Start dating again.		Woman" (1990) Richa		
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ESPN	SportsCenter (Live)	·				oston Celtics at Minne	•	,		I.	ashington Wizards at D	
ESPN2	NASCAR Now		Dale Jr Shifting		Arm Wrestling	Arm Wrestling		Fights. B.J. Flores vs.			SportsCenter (Live)	
CSN	SportsNite ©	SportsNite ©	NHL Hockey Carol	ina Hurricanes at Was	hington Capitals. (Sul	oject to Blackout) (S L	ive)	SportsNite ©	SportsNite ©	NBA Basketball Wa	ashington Wizards at D	Denver Nuggets.
CNN	(4:00) The Situation	Room	Lou Dobbs Tonight	CC	CNN Election Cen	ter	Larry King Live ©		Anderson Cooper 3	60 CC		
FNC	` ,		The O'Reilly Factor © Hannity & Colmes ©		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor					
MSNBC			Countdown With Keith Olbermann Lockup: Holman		MSNBC Investigates		Sex Slaves in America					
						"/1002 Scionco Eio	tion) Sam Noill Laura	Dorn Joff Coldblum	'DC 12'	(:45) ++ "Species"		
, ,			*** "Jurassic Park" (1993, Science Fiction) Sam Neill, Laura Dern, Jeff Goldblum.			() () () () () ()						
			*** "Bound for Glory" (1976, Biography) David Carradine, Ronny Cox, Melinda Dill			Entourage © Entourage © Real Time With Bill Mahe			<u> </u>			
					The Wire "React Quotes" (1) In Treatment (1) In Treatment (N)			*** "Die Hard 2" (1990, Action) Bruce Willis, Bonnie Bedelia.				
			(:15) ★★★ "16 Blocks" (2006, Action) Bruce Willis. ♠ 'PG-13' © (:10) ★★ "Pride" (2007, Drama) Terrence Howard, Bernie Mac. iTV. 'PG'									
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TMC	· · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<u>'</u>						" (2006) Rowan Atkins		Conversations	
STARZ!	· · ·	ge 2" (2006) Amber Tan		1, ,		s" (2006) Heather Graham. 'PG-13' ★ "Wild Hogs" (2007) Tim Allen. ① 'PG-13' © ★ * "The Guardian" (2006, Drama) Kevin Costner, Ashton Kutcher. Premiere. ① 'PG-13' ©				\``	German" (2006) Geo	<u> </u>
ENCORE	(:05) ★★ "The Fright	iteners" (1996, Suspei	nse) Michael J. Fox. (.K. cc	* * "The Guardian	i" (2006, Drama) Kevin	Costner, Ashton Kuto	cner. Premiere. (1) 'PG	- 13 CC	(:20) ★★ "Universa	Soldier" (1992) 🕡 'R	UU

JOBS



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all levels of stan and ... under pressure. Please contact APTA, HR at antaiobs@apta.com or fax resur aptajobs@apta.com or fax resume to 202-496-4323 EOE M/F/D

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Career Fair
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PSAV Presentation Services is the leading supplier of audiovisual and event technology to hotels, associations, producers and meeting planners worldwide. We are currently seeking entry level, experienced and management personnel in the Washington D. C. and Northern Virginia marketplace and will be hosting a JOB FAIR and Open House to be followed by on-site interviews.
WHEN: Tuesday February 12, 2008 WHERE:
Hilton Alexandria Mark Center 5000 Seminary
Road Alexandria VA 2311 TIME: 9:00 am. 2:00 HIIION AIEXANDRIA WARK CERITED SOUD STEILING Y ROAD AIEXANDRIA WAR SENDEN SOUD THE SOUD AM, 2:00 pm and 5:00 pm. Please RSVP to 1-800-479-1804 ext 2-990 as to which session you would like to attend. For more information, please visit our website at www.psav.com

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ree apartment in exchange for childcare + salary. 703-401-5679 or 703-978-3976.

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Fax: 703.527.0369

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Assistant VP of Financial Operations Full-time Career Opportunity

Unity Health Care is a multi-site non-profi organization offering a continuum of medical care and human services primarily to the homeless and medically underserved. Serve our mission, vision, values and community by applying for the following career opportunity:

The Assistant VP of Financial Operations acts as a The Assistant vp of Financial Operations acts as a deputy Chief Financial Officer and is responsible for assisting the VP of Financial Operations in the overall the overall financial management of the organization. The position's primary responsibility shall be supervision of the consolidated sibility shall be supervision of the consolidated organization's accounting, budgeting, and applicable reporting functions. Degree in accounting/finance/business administration, Certified Public Accountant or Masters of Business Administration plus significant experience in accounting management. 5-7 years of accounting experience preferably with a minimum of 3 in a Contoller/Accounting Manager position or other supervisory position in a similar sized organization.

We offer an attractive benefits and compensation package. For more information please apply online at: www.unityhealthcare.org, click on Career Center.

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Job Announcement # 2008-179-WRO

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Unity Health Care is a multi-site non-profit organization offering a continuum of medical care and human services primarily to the homeless and medically underserved. Serve our mission, vision, values and community by applying for the following career opportunity:

The Human Resources Partner-Benefits & Compensation is primarily responsible for designing planning, and implementing organization benefits and compensation programs, policies, and procedures; reviewing programs, suggesting modifications, and ensuring achievement of competitive market position and other goals identified by the organization; ensuring programs meet employees needs, comply with legal requirements, and are cost effective.

Education/Required Training: Requires a bachelor's degree in a related area. An equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered. Required Experience: Minimum 3 years related experience required including the following areas: Compensation and Benefits Administration, HR Generalist, staffing, employee relations, and training & development.

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HEALTH CARE



Community Health Center and Correctional Full-time Career Opportunities

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 Psychiatrist
 Physician Assistant
 Dentist
 Register Nurse (RN)
 License Practical Nurse (LPN)
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 Regulatory Affairs Nurse
 Radiologic Technician
 Health Center Director
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- Driver
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- IT Data Analyst/Traine
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Customer Service/ Data Entry Immed opening FT, expr req. Benefits: 401K, Health Ins, vac/sick leave. Please fax resumes to: 301-942-7219

IT Full-time Career Opportunities



Unity Health Care is a multi-site non-profit organization offering a continuum of medical care and human services primarily to the homeless and medically underserved. Serve our mission, vision, values and community by applying for the following career opportunities:

The IT Data Analyst is a key member of the team responsible for information system's support for electronic data entry and workflow analysis to support various departments and initiatives. It is anticipated that the IT Data Analyst will support such efforts implementation support and data entry for Unity's practice management and electronic medical records projects. Bachelor's Degree in computer science, statistics, mathematics, or related field or work experience. Required Experience: Minimum of 3 years of related experience in Crystal Reports or similar reporting software. Minimum of 2 years' experience in a health care institution.

The Information Technology Data Analyst Trainer is responsible for coordinating all aspects of planning, design, development, training, implementation, communication, maintenance, and evaluation of existing or new functionality related to clinical information systems used by Unity in the D.C. Department of Corrections (DOC. Required Education/Required Training: Bachelor's degree in computer science, statistics, mathematics, or related field or work experience.

Required Experience: BA/BS degree in computer science, statistics, mathematics, or related field or work experience. Three (3) or more years of demonstrated experience in Crystal Reports or similar reporting software. Minimum of three (3) years of experience in a health care institution. Experience in Correctional Health is a significant plus. a significant plus.

* For correctional position: correctional experi-

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Assistant Restaurant Manager

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Please refer to the job title to which you are applying in the SUBJECT field of the email.

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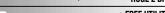
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2435
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Charlottesville

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\$1500.00, 3 br, 2 ba, 1 1/2ba, 2 Fls, 7737 Merrick Ln, Landover, MD, new carpet, Form LR, Hw Firs, eat-in kitchen, 301-922-4491
Rockville-Renov Coln! W/Full in-law apt, 5BR

Rockville-Renov Colnl w/Full in-law apt. 5BR 4.5BA, Nw fm rm Open Sun 1-3. 2902 Penrose St.

4.5BA, Nw fm rm Open Sun 1-3. 2902 Penrose St. 301-946-2345.5564,000. On craigslist.org,50+ pics. UPPER MARL—Brand new det colo style home, starting @ \$389,999. 4br, all closing paid, choose, your lot today! Catherine Holroyd, Exit Premier Realty.202-391-2347: 301-560-6700. ext 3104 UPPER MARLB -\$559,500. 2 mo mortg & add'l clsg cost paid. 4Br, 2FBa, fin bsmt, 2-c gar, Cheryl, Re/Max One, 301-464-0044, C/202-285-3108. **UPPER MARLBORO**—3 IVI Colo-style TH, end unit, 3BR, 2½ BA, \$235,900. Edward Cunningham

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540-720-6225

CARS

BMW 2004 X5 — owned by a diplomat (1st owner), its a must see must gol3.0i, \$27500, Excellent cond, 54k mi, Gray int, Gray ext, one of few that has both premium and sport packages all togeather!

Chevrolet 1999 Venture — LT, \$3900, Exc cond, V6, 119k mi, Green, Lthr, alloy whls, Loaded!, Pwr everything. ABS. TCS. 703-583-9888

Dodge 1999 Ram — 1500 Club Cab, \$6,850 obo, Excellent cond, 134k mi, Gray int, Silver ext, 4 dr, FORD CROWN VICTORIA—clean pre-owned police cars for sale. 1999-2003, police intercep, low mi. \$5000-\$7000. Pircoal Co., LLC. 301-370-7740.

Ford 2004 Explorer — XLT 7-pax 4-whl Dr, \$12,375 obo, Exc cond, 58k mi, all power, new Arl inspec Beige int Gold ext. ABS. alarm. 571-237-1980

GMC 2004 Sierra — 3500 Crew Cab Dually, SLE, 4x4, Ex cond, Lthr, All Options, Sat Radio, OnStar, DVD, PS2, 5th Whl Htch, DrwBr Rcvr, Rihno Lnr, 29k mi, GMC X-Wrnty, \$28,500/obo, 302-537-4987 or 302-542-4326

Honda 1990 Civic — DX, \$2160 obo, Excellent cond, 120k mi, Brown int, Beige ext, 4 dr, Cass, Buckets, ice A/C, roof racks, 571-276-4293

Hyundai 2007 Elantra — GLS, \$14,650 obo, Excellent cond, 4k mi, Gray int, Silver ext, 4 dr, ABS, fog lent cond, 4k mi, Gray int lights, CD, 202-701-4657 Hyundai 1999 Elantra — GLS, \$2700, Runs Great, New VA Insp, Good cond, 133K mi, 5 Spd, Gray, Sunrf. Cruise. Good Tires. 703-444-8942

Junit, Glinse, Stodu Hies, 703-444-6742

Isuzu 1998 Rodeo — S, \$4795, \(\)0, 104K, exc cond, 1 owner, all records, 4WD, Silver, never wrecked, garaged, 301-404-9234

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202, 714, 9925

Mercury 2005 Grand Marquis — LS Premium, \$9,700 obo, Excel cond, 45k mi, Red ext, Lthr int, Mnrf. Fully Loaded 703-619-6327

Porsche 1981 911 — \$16000, Excellent cond, 96K, Blk int, Blk ext, 2 dr, w-tail, Lthr Int, alloy whls, Sunrf. records. carfax. 540-955-0718 **Subaru 2001 Impreza** — Outback Sport Wagon, \$6800, Great cond, 88k mi, MD Insp, AWD, Ski

racks, Blue ext. 5 dr. Cass, 3015235534 Toyota 2004 4Runner SR5— Only 25K Mi, V6, 4x4, moonf, roof rack, Orig owner. Excellent condition. \$17.900/OBO. Call 703-593-5771.

Volkswagen 2002 Beetle — Exc. cond, Orange, pwr pkg, 6 disc, leather htd seats, new tires / brakes, maintained 84k mi, \$9000 obo, 703-585-

Volkswagen 1998 Cabrio — 53k!!!, Orig Ownr, GL, Auto, Green/Beige, Dual AB, PW/PL/PS, Alm, Htd Sts, \$7800, 202-965-1711

🔆 TRENDS, CULTURE, DISCOVERIES, IDEAS, PEOPLE

Science

Global conservation groups name 2008 the Year of the Frog

They say you have to kiss a lot of frogs to find a prince. Still, with more than 6,000 species of amphibians around the world, you might think the odds are pretty good, if you can stand the slimy lips.

But frogs are disappearing at an alarming rate — scientists estimate that one-third to one-half of amphibian species are in danger of extinction. That's why this year - a leap year - of course - has been designated as the Year of the Frog by global conservation organizations. To raise awareness, many zoos and aquariums across the country will be holding events on leap day, Feb. 29.

Internet dating may have replaced amphibian-smoothing in the modern search for a mate. But there are many other reasons that the loss of frogs should concern all of us.

"Frogs are really good indicators of what's going on in the environment around us," says Kym Gopp, associate curator of conservation at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo

Most frogs live both in water and on land at different stages of their lives, as tadpoles and as adults, so they're affected by problems in both types of habitat. And since they take in water directly through their delicate skin, they're acutely sensitive to water quality.

So, frogs can be seen as an early warning system of problems that may eventually affect the rest of us. "If chemicals in the water cause mutations and reproductive problems in frogs, think what it could be doing to humans," says Vicky Poole of the National Aquarium in Baltimore.

Frogs are really good indicators of

what's going on in the environment around us."

KYM GOPP, ZOO CURATOR

Frogs are important for other reasons, too. Frogs and tadpoles consume huge numbers of insects - many of which cause crop damage and disease - and are themselves an important food source for many other species. And amphib-

Winehouse won't make Grammys | 42



Discussions: Boudreau talks teamwork 40

Blog Log: What's an 'abomaly,' Marion? 140



ians are valuable to science in ways that directly affect humans.

"They're important because they've had a huge role in medicine, research and medical applications," says Shelly Grow, conservation biologist with Association of Zoos and Aquariums. "Many medical compounds have been found because of the secretions in their skin or the microbial communities on their skin."

Why are frogs disappearing so

rapidly? Like many other animals, they are affected by habitat loss and

climate change, as well as pollution. But a special problem is a disease that's spreading all over the world, a fungus of a type called chytrid.

"When this fungus arrives in an

Some species affected by the fungus have been successfully bred in captivity, like the Panamanian golden frog. But fast action is critical if conservationists hope to reproduce this success. Fortunately for the golden frog, Grow says, a lot of research was done before the population was reduced, so zoos knew how to breed them in captivity. Other species don't have this advantage.

"The room for trial and error is now particularly slim," says

Of course, even if we successfully breed a species, what if their habitat has been destroyed? As Poole says, "I can't go and return a frog to a parking lot." LINDA LOMBARDI (AP)

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MUSIC

Singing Solo

Former To-Isis lead singer Duane Stephenson has penned huge hits for other Jamaican artists, such as Jah Cure's "Reflections." But he's gone solo with his new CD, "From August Town," and on Saturday he'll openfor Tarrus Riley at Crossroads. Christopher Porter spoke with the budding reggae star. | COMING UP





FREE RIDE

Miracle on 14th Street

In all of D.C.'s theaters, you won't find a story like the Source Theatre's. Rachel Kaufman chronicles the 30-year history of the 14th Street NW playhouse-turned-community arts revival project—including how it nearly became a billiards hall. | ONLINE NOW

FILN

Ordinary People

When filmmaker Charles Burnett attended UCLA in the 1970s, indie cinema was focused on artistic imagery rather than production efficiency. Glenn Dixon profiles Burnett's slice-of-life movie style, on display at AFI Silver starting Saturday. | ONLINE NOW



comment board



neighbor [of mine] was robbed of his iPod on the Yellow Line platform at Chinatown ... at 3 p.m.! That's just ridiculous."

COMMENTER GW, WHO ADDED, "THERE'S NO REASON ANY OF THIS SHOULD BE HAPPENING. WE ALL NEED TO DO A BETTER JOB!"



sneak pulled my pack under the seat, took [my] purse and proceeded to have a field day with my credit cards."

COMMENTER MBH, WHO ADDED, "I DID APPRE-CIATE HIS LEAVING EVERYTHING ELSE, AT LEAST. YOU CAN BET THAT I NO LONGER LEAVE MY BACKPACK ON THE FLOOR!"



"Yes, a man robbed a senior citizen of her wheelchair, and then sat in the wheelchair just to pay the reduced fare in order to board the 70 bus. Unbelievable."

COMMENTER OMAR, RESPONDING TO THURSDAY'S POLL CENTER QUESTION, "DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO'S BEEN ROBBED

pollcenter

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YESTERDAY'S RESULTS (AS OF 5 P.M.)

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO'S BEEN ROBBED WHILE RIDING ON THE METRO?

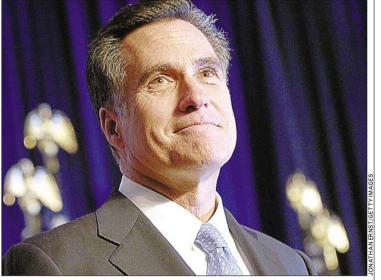
YES 19%

cars.com



"I saw [Marion] Barry on MSNBC.
... I think I heard him say 'abomaly,'
which appears to be a mixture of
'anomaly' and 'abnormality."

A COMMENTER AT **BLOG.WASHINGTONPOST.COM/RAWFISHER** REACTS TO D.C. COUNCIL MEMBER MARION BARRY'S ENDORSEMENT OF DEMOCRAT BARACK OBAMA FOR PRESIDENT.



"Romney's campaign ... felt the need to always portray [him] as the perfect candidate for whatever audience he was in front of."

REDSTATE.COM ANALYZES THE FAILINGS OF THE REPUBLICAN CANDIDACY OF MITTTROMNEY, WHO DROPPED OUT OF THE 2008 WHITE HOUSE RACE ON THURSDAY.



"TO TODAY'S STAND-UP comedians, drug ads are what airline food was 20 years ago. It's easy to poke fun at 'em. But this is some serious deception. It makes Dr. Jarvik look bad. It makes advertising look bad."

ADPULP.COM COMMENTS ON A LIPITOR
DRUG AD, WHERE A BODY DOUBLE FOR DR.
ROBERT JARVIK, WHO INVENTED THE ARTI-

"I DIG VAL KILMER. Not only does he have a treehouse, but he's also planning an eco-village and his own organic foods empire. Might as well throw in voicing the coolest talking car on the planet."

ECORAZZI.COM IS EXCITED THAT THE ACTOR WILL BE THE VOICE OF KITT, THE HIGH-TECH CAR, IN THE UPCOMING "KNIGHT RIDER" MOVIE.

"YOU SHOULDN'T screw with people's perceptions of reality. It can only lead to bad things. Funny commercials, yes. But also bad things."

THEDCUNIVERSE.BLOGSPOT.COM ASSESSES NEW BURGER KING ADS IN WHICH CUSTOMERS ARE TOLD THAT THE WHOPPER HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED.

Discussions

Bruce Boudreau

Washington Capitals coach **BRUCE BOUDREAU** was online Thursday to talk about the team and his coaching philosophy.



How do you like your new job?

It is everything that I thought it would be, and when the people

you work with are great people, it makes it a lot easier as well.

Seventy goals for Alex Ovechkin)? Seventy goals is a lot in today's

NHL, but I certainly would not count against it. He continues to amaze me every game.

Fighting seems to be becoming more and more infrequent; Caps players were only involved in four fights in December and four in January. Is fighting still a factor in the way the game is played today?

Fighting is absolutely still part of the game today. We can put a pretty tough lineup together, so I don't think teams want to get into that game with us. Plus, our guys that are tough can also play, so we don't want them in the penalty box for the entire game.

Have teams locked down on you

guys? It seems scores are lower and lower.

The scores are lower because we are getting closer to playoff time and teams are buckling down even more than normal.

What do you say to purist fans of hockey who bemoan the fact that Ovechkin will spend his career in a weak market for hockey?

I don't think Alex would have signed a 13-year contract if he felt that way. This is going to be a great hockey market very soon.



The staff looks ahead to Valentine's Day and asks readers to weigh in on what love means at II a.m. | washingtonpost.com/discussions.



MAKE SUMMER SMITHSONIAN PLANS YET. The Smithsonian's National Museum of American History is delaying its reopening from this summer to the fall. Director Brent Glass says an exact date has not been set for the remodeled museum's reopening.

Bizarro | Dan Piraro

It's just people dressed like politicians, Warning you about not voting for them while lights flash from orange to red. BIZARRO, COM

Cornered | *Mike Baldwin*



"I do. But not literally."

Pooch Cafe | Paul Gilligan

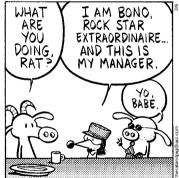








Pearls Before Swine | Stephan Pastis





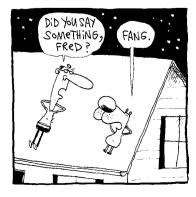




The Duplex | Glenn McCoy







Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You're not about to go without the attentions of the one you love — but in return, you're going to have to offer something valuable.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Alliances may be unclear during the first part of the day, until one chance encounter clears up any confusion that you may have had.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Have no fear of that which you do not know; only familiar threats will carry any weight — and even then you'll be able to ward them off.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Something that happened long ago is likely to prove quite important to you. You must take time to figure out an unexpected dilemma.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You have a good reason to get well ahead of the game. You will derive inspiration from unusual sources all day long.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You may have a rare opportunity to relive something that was an extra-special experience for you long, long ago. Enjoy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Intimate affairs are best addressed at a time and place that allow you the greatest freedom to express yourself. You must be honest, sensitive.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Leave it to friends to complicate an issue that you had all but resolved. You're going to have to patch things up once again.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) The lesson for today is that there are, indeed, two sides to every issue. Every encounter you have is likely to bring this message home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) This is not the time to get bogged down with details. Broad strokes are called for right now. Jump in and enjoy where the current takes you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You may not realize just how you are affecting your own chances of success by letting your behavior be dictated by unconscious forces.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You must quard against having anyone take advantage of you - consciously or unconsciously. Libra individuals require special care.



Anna Nicole Smith died at 39 on this day last year of an accidental drug overdose.

Today in History

Mary, Queen of Scots, is beheaded in England after she was implicated in a plot to murder her cousin, Queen Elizabeth I.

1915 D.W. Griffith's groundbreaking and controversial movie about the Civil War, "The Birth of a Nation," premieres in Los Angeles.

Three college students 1968 are killed in a confrontation with highway patrolmen in Orangeburg,

S.C., during a civil rights protest against a whites-only bowling alley.

2007 Anna Nicole Smith dies atage 39 of an accidental drug overdose.

Corrections:

An item in Thursday's Weekend Pass said musician Barry Manilow will perform at the Patriot Center. He'll play at Verizon Center Saturday. Also, a caption in Wednesday's paper said Fat Tuesday is the first day of Mardi Gras. It is the last day.





People



Glenn Close was shocked. Paris Hilton was getting an award at Harvard!?

BLONDES

'I Knew Elle Woods and You, Paris, Are No Elle Woods'

PARIS HILTON found herself somewhere she never thought she'd be: Harvard. "Harvard is hot!" she said Wednesday as she picked up the Harvard Lampoon humor magazine's "Woman of the Year" award. "Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine standing here, standing on the steps of the Harvard Lampoon. It's really exciting and I've had such a great time," said Hilton, who stars as an attractive best friend to an ugly duckling in the film "The Hottie & the Nottie." (AP)



Whatever. They Even Let **Non-Humanitarians In**

MADONNA, Chris Rock and dozens of other celebrities raised \$3.7 million at a star-studded benefit at the United Nations to help poor and sick children around the world. The \$2,500-a-plate dinner and live auction hosted by Rock on Wednesday was an unusual blend of charity and commercial promotion for the U.N.

Gucci, which paid the costs, pegged the event to the Friday opening of its flagship store on Fifth Avenue and put its logo and UNICEF's behind the walkway where celebrities were photographed. (AP)



GRAMMYS

Amy Not Welcome in U.S.

AMY WINEHOUSE will not be performing at this year's Grammy Awards because her request for a visa has been turned down by the U.S. Embassy. "Amy has been progressing well since entering a rehabilitation clinic two weeks ago and although disappointed with the decision has accepted the ruling and will be concentrating on her recovery," her publicity firm said in a statement. (AP)

DECADES

Author, 56, Is Puzzled by 'Lifetime' Part of Awards



TERRY MCMILLAN has been honored with a lifetime achievement award from Essence for her novels about

the everyday struggles of modern American black women. McMillan's best-known books are "How Stella Got Her Groove Back" and "Waiting to Exhale." (AP)



"If Shiloh and Zahara want to tweeze their brows, that's totally fine with me."

National Weather for Friday, February 8

Angelina Skipped Lame UN Party, Did Real Work

ANGELINA JOLIE brought her star power to Baghdad on Thursday on a mission as a U.N. goodwill ambassador to highlight the plight of Iraqi refugees. The actress said there needs to be a more coherent plan as the more than 2 million internally displaced Iraqis begin to trickle back to their homes amid a recent lull in violence that had threatened to spark a civil war in the country. (AP)

> -Os 0s 10s

40s

70s

ROs

5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area



50°

Lourdes trust fund is contingent on never once tweezing her brows.

Tonight

Partly cloudy



54° / 36°



windy, colder 38° / 25°

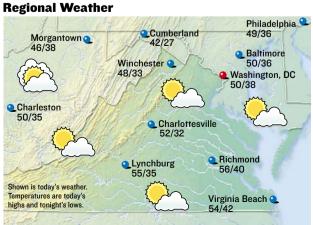


45° / 32°



Mostly cloudy, rain

52° / 38°



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather. Inc. @2008

Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Thur. **Temperature**

High	
Low	
Normal high	45
Normal low	28
Average humidity	39%

Precipitation

0.14"
2.20"
0.64"
3.57"
. 2.61"
3.85"

washingtonpost.com/weather

Regional Forecast

D.C. Metro: Today, partly sunny. High 50. Wind west 4-8 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 38. Wind southeast 4-8 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today
Moonrise today 7:56 a.m
Moonset today 7:31 p.m

Feb 13





National Cities

City	Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	60/39/s
Boston	37/27/sf
Chicago	37/34/sf
Dallas	66/38/s
Denver	40/2I/pc
Honolulu	79/69/pc
Los Angeles	69/5I/s
Miami	83/72/t
New York City	44/36/pc
Orlando	76/60/pc
Seattle	46/40/r

World Cities

	world Ci	1162	
,	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
;	Amsterdam	48/36/s	50/36/pd
n	Athens	52/46/r	50/43/r
1	Berlin	45/34/pc	50/34/pc
3	Buenos Aires	81/64/t	86/63/pc
С	Calgary	25/-I5/sn	7/6/sn
С	Dublin	54/43/pc	54/43/pc
3	Geneva	50/34/s	53/35/s
t	Moscow	34/28/sf	34/28/c
)	Rome	54/43/s	57/36/s
С	Sydney	72/65/pc	69/62/t
ſ	Tokyo	47/34/s	44/39/r

s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

61/38/s 35/4/sn 70/45/s 55/25/p 77/50/9 45/35/6

49/42/r

Puzzles L

CROSSWORD OPEN WIDE

ACROSS

- 1 Thump
- 5 "... not always what
- 9 Film by the Coens
- 14 Humongous prefix
- 15 "Scope" starter
- 16 Spacious window
- 17 Asgard god
- 18 It's in the eye of
- the beholder
- 19 Performed a cooking chore
- 20 Like a whimsical remark
- 23 Eat too much
- 24 Determine the amount of damage
- 27 Race possibility
- 28 Mud deposit
- 30 Road rescue
- 31 Former GDR ally
- 34 Bit of insincerity
- 37 Bun locales
- 39 Nod backward
- 40 Output

- 41 One with a sugar problem
- 44 Alberta native
- 45 Continental trading org.
- 46 Rhythmic cheer
- 47 Lunch invitation?
- 49 Musical
- embellishments
- 51 An amount of
- heat
- 55 Very appetizing
- 58 Gives careful attention to
- 60 Colorful language
- 61 "One ___ land" (Longfellow)
- 62 Animal disease
- 63 Double-curved arch molding
- 64 "Take ___ from me!" (Here's some
- advice) 65 Ponders
- 66 Sea eagle
- 67 USMC rank
 - **DOWN**

- 1 Struck
- 2 Enticed
- 3 Winery process 4 It yields large oval
- fruit 5 Mail-order catalog
- name
- 6 Like a Stephen King story
- 7 St. Patrick's home
- 8 Assorted, briefly 9 Ranger's concern
- 10 Bold, impatient type, astrologically 11 More inclined to shake
- 12 "Turn right"
- 13 Discontinued
- 21 Showman Geller 22 Actor Alan of "Gilligan's Island"
- 25 Part of a statue's foundation
- 26 King Carl XVI
- Gustaf, for one 28 Tape holder
- 29 Does not exist 31 Not prepared 32 Carpenter, at

- times 33 Scientific samples
- 35 Rocker Billy 36 Secret front?
- 38 Needles
- 42 Campus concern 43 Uncivilized sort
- 48 Pintful, perhaps 50 Give quarters to
- 51 Provide for
- 52 Breaks in relations 53 "You're_ trouble!" 54 Country north of Sudan
- 56 Gibson of oaters 57 Minimum amount?

4 9

58 "I'm thinking ..." 59 Nice water

Yesterday's Solution

				-										
1 N	² A	³ A	¹ c	⁵ P		°С	⁷ A	⁸ R	³E		¹⁰ P	¹¹ A	¹² N	¹³ S
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58	59					60					61			
62						63					64			
58 62 65						66					67			

SAMURAI SUDOKU | HARD

Fill in each column, row and 3x3 box with the digits I through 9 without repeating any. The twist in Samurai Sudoku is that the digits that appear in the overlapping boxes must work for both puzzles. A piece of advice to get you started: Don't focus on completing one grid at a time. Keep the whole puzzle in mind as you go, because filling in a number in one grid could give you clues to another.

Last Week's Solution

2	3	5	6	8	9	7	1	4	1			6	4	5	7	2	1	3	8	9	
6	7	9	4	3	1	2	5	8				3	7	2	6	8	9	4	5	1	
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1 3 6 5	7 4 8	9 8	3 2 4	4 1 2	5 6	2 7 5	8 5 9	6 9 7	1	7	3	9 3	1 8	5 2	1 5	6 8 2	7 9 5	2 4	3 6 7	8 7 3	
1 3 6 5	7 4 8 2	9 8 3 4	3 2 4 9	4 1 2 6	5 6 1 7	2 7 5 8	8 5 9 3	6 9 7 1	1	7	3	9 3 4 2	4 1 8 6	5 2 1 9	1 5 6 8	6 8 2 7	7 9 5 3	2 4 9 5	3 6 7	8 7 3 4	
1 3 6 5 9	7 4 8 2 1	9 8 3 4 7	3 2 4 9 5	4 1 2 6 3	5 6 1 7 8	2 7 5 8 4	8 5 9 3 6	6 9 7 1 2	1	7	3	9 3 4 2 5	4 1 8 6 3	5 2 1 9 7	1 5 6 8 4	6 8 2 7 9	7 9 5 3	2 4 9 5 6	3 6 7 1 8	8 7 3 4 2	

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3	6	7		8	5	9			7		3	5	6	2	7	6		5	1	7
	6	7		8	5		3		7		3	5			7	6		5	1	
	6	7		8	5		3	4	7		3				7	6		5	1	
6	6			8	5	2	3	4	7		3		8	2	7	6			1	2
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CLASSIC SUDOKU | HARD

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© PUZZLES BY PAPPOCOM	4					5		2	

Yesterday's Solution

4	7	3	8	5	2	1	9	6
6	5		9	7	4	3	8	2
9	2	8	6	1	3	4	7	5
1	3		4	8	5	2	6	9
8	9	5	3	2	6		4	1
2	4	6	1	9	7	8	5	3
7	8	2	5	3	9	6	1	4
3	6	9	7	4	1	5	2	8
5	1			6	8	9		

Fill in the boxes so each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits I through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Need more Su|do|ku?

Find another Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday



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Friday, February 8, 2008



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HOW TO SHOP, ENTERTAIN, DRESS, DECORATE AND OTHERWISE IMPROVE YOURSELF AND YOUR HOME





■ Call Food Network diva Ingrid Hoffmann the Latina Giada. On "Simply Delicioso" (Saturdays at 11:30 a.m.), the Miami-dwelling "shortcut chica" reveals how to make kiwi mojitos, South American-style ribs and Cuban sandwiches. Find more of her recipes in "Simply Delicioso: A Collection of Everyday Recipes With a Latin Twist" (\$22, Clarkson Potter).

Describe your cooking style.

I'd say it's multicultural Hispanic. People don't realize that there are 22 Hispanic countries. I'm lucky enough to be a little bit of a mutt — I'm Colombian-born, but my Mom's dad is Bolivian, and I lived in the Caribbean.

How does living in Miami affect what you whip up?

I have a love affair going with the two cultures here, American and Latino. So, I'll Latinize a burger, or put guava paste or tamarind on my barbecue.

What's your fave recipe in the book?

I make Caribbean salmon with barbecue sauce on top. Then I lay it

on top of a bed of mango salsa. It's modern, easy and really colorful.

Which Latin ingredients are your staples?

I love Hass avocados. If you use Chilean ones, they have more fat content. They fill you up and give you a shiny coat! I also like cilantro, and I cook a lot with fruit — fresh mangos, guavas. I also do a lot with frozen passion-fruit pulp.

What's your home kitchen like?

It has lots of light — it's open with lots of glass. And I painted it a lavender color. I've also got incredible speakers in there — they probably blast my neighbors out. But I need music to cook! I light a candle and have a great time.



Ingrid Hoffmann

TV CHEF, AUTHOR, AVOCADO ADVOCATE

Any favorite gadgets?

My lime squeezer. I love that thing, I use it every day. It's almost like a good luck charm.

Any other culinary tools you can't live without?

I like anything with an engine, like an immersion blender or a kitchen torch. I love my torch — I burn the heck out of everything.

What's your secret to throwing good parties at home?

Don't stress — have fun with it. And for a really interesting dinner party, invite crazy people that don't match. That makes for a really interesting time. And instead of trying to impress my family and friends, I give them comfort food. I want them to feel that they can come in and take their shoes off.

"I like anything with an engine, like an immersion blender or a kitchen torch."

How do you prep your place before a bash?

I like creating a visual experience at my parties, since everything comes in through the eyes. If it's a tropical party, I'll have some coconuts, sand and shells on the table.

Valentine's Day is coming up — any ideas for something delicious one can serve his or her sweetie?

Do a crazy drink where you marinate strawberries with sugar and brandy overnight. Then mix that with a bottle of champagne, a bottle of white wine and a bottle of soda water — it makes an incredible punch. Or put a spoonful of guava puree in champagne — it's like a Latin Bellini.

JENNIFER BARGER (EXPRESS)



MUSIC - The man who makes the whole world sing performs at Neutron (see, we really do have a Barry Manifore stery). 7 KIDS - Froes invade the nation's capital S2 What's love? Page 28 | Not into all the schmalize? Page 6

Love Means...

What happens when you ask strangers on the street to define it? Find out in the Weekend section.

Also in Weekend: Anti-Valentine's Day events; free fun; the 3-Hour Weekend; plus, what's new at the movies, on DVD and in video games.

Great weekends start with the Weekend section.

The Washington Post

If you don't get it, you don't get it.

goods | Styles



Cardiac Cake Unit

Noir (\$8). Feb. 10 from 3 to 6 p.m., the shop hosts a

wine and chocolate tasting.

LITTLE KIDS and cupcake junkies will heart little treats baked using Crown's newest pan (\$24, Williamssonoma.com). The thing is nonstick, meaning there'll be no ugly, blob-shaped confections this V-Day. But is it wrong that we have the urge to make multicolored Jell-O shots with it and invite our friends over for a drunken lonely hearts bash?

Glamour to Go

FOR THE SLIGHTEST tint,

or last-minute television appearances that will be broadcast in high-def, grab Givenchy's Perfect Again! Correct Set (\$38, Sephora).
Creamy and luxurious, the shades brighten and lighten skin tones. Tilt the quad of colors to find a hidden drawer of brushes — one has a beveled sponge tip.



dear **manolo**

ANSWERS FROM THE SHOEBLOGGER

Valentine's Day is coming next week, and my husband is taking me out to a romantic dinner at a very expensive restaurant. I've got my little black dress, but I need some suitably sexy shoes. – JANICE

■ Manolo says, ayyyy! It is the Day of Valentine, one of the most potentially dangerous and depressing days in the entire calendar. Those who do not have the beloveds are cast down into the pits of gloomy morosity. While those who do have the beloveds sail dangerous-



ly close to the rocky shores of aift aiving. Both the gift that is sent and the gift that is received reflect upon the character and depth of the relationship, and any error in judgment results in pain and suffering for all. Woe be to the simple working man who brings home to his beloved the gift of cheap chocolates and small kitchen appliances. And woe be to the devoted woman who does not understand the necessity of providing her good man with the soft looks. exposed flesh and physical enthusiasm demanded by the votaries of Eros. Look, here is the Eiffel (\$450) from Stuart Weitzman, the sandal with the French name, so it must be romantic, no?



Ask the Manolo a question at manolo@shoeblogs.com. Visit the Manolo at shoeblogs.com.



→ On Valentine's Day, show you adore your beer-loving baby by taking him or her to sample green peppercorn bock, chocolate stout, a really hoppy IPA and other wild brews at a free specialty brewski tasting. Feb. I4, 4-7 p.m. The Wine Specialist, 2II5 M St. NW, 202-833-0707

Prints at Pauper Prices

THE BIRDS, **POSIES** and Baroque swirls of New York's hip Dwell Studio bedding and table linens headline on design blogs and in groovy pads. The mod firm is now selling style mojo for less via a Target line. Nursery bedding and kitchen stuff like a leafy mitt (\$5) are now in stores and online; bedding arrives next week.

Styles | holidays

secret source







Grammar of Love

■ Here's an argument no couple should die without having: Is "Converse" a plural or singular noun? Example: "Honey, should I refer to those two pairs of stinky, disgusting Chuck Taylors as your 'Converse'?" Converse? Converse?

Of course, to stage this debate, one must first have multiple pairs of the sneaker in question. And even the canvas ones are pricey these days — a pair

A complete declension of the noun 'Converse' is probably impossible.

of low-top men's Chucks (also known as All Stars) are \$42 at Zappos.com.

Thus, the opening of the Converse online outlet is a major deal for fans. Go to Converse.com/outlet for nearly 400 styles; the ones pictured cost, from top down, \$28 (from \$47), \$36 (from \$60) and \$33 (from \$55). We suggest the uppermost pair, which depicts tiny broken hearts, for the spinster in your life.

As if that's not enough confusingly named footwear, a new line of One Star clothes and shoes is selling at Target. (One Stars look like All Stars with a few differences in grommets, stitching, etc.) The six men's pairs go for \$30 to \$40. (And we say the plural's just "Converse.")



(I) varsity reds

Banana Republic's cashmere Monogram V-neck has a slimmer fit that would pair well with dark denim and a crisp white buttonup. Skip the heart-shaped boxers, though. (\$99, Banana Republic)

(2) love=mix tape

Remember when a cassette could say it all? Put a modern playlist on this old-school 64 MB USB drive. It's all the sweetness of sharing music without the gritty rewind duty. (\$20, Alpha-man.com)

(3) scent by male

Notes of chilled solid amber (?), chilled sudachi (??) and hydroponic sage (???) gives Calvin Klein's Euphoria its spicy Oriental vibe. It's like date night in a bottle! (\$62. Macvs)

A Plan for Your Man

If he knows what's good for him, your guy's about to lay down some major dough. Since you're going to have to reciprocate in one way or another, you might as well get him a Valentine's Day present you'll enjoy, too. Follow our gift guide, and he'll smell good, look good, broaden his movie repertoire and serve drinks sans Solo cups. No word yet on advancements in the field of ESPN repellant. ASHLEY JOY PARKER

(4) lug with love

Kenneth Cole's carryall has a removable leather shoulder strap that'll make Metro rides comfy, sans bulgy backpack. (\$275, Kenneth Cole, Montgomery Mall; 301-469-0310)

(5) hope floats

This deco design isn't just for show: The suspended bowls at the bottom of these martini glasses serve to elevate condensation, so kiss coasters goodbye. (\$100 per pair, Alpha-man.com)

(6) not sent by mail

Movie men will drool for VUDU, a black box cross between Netflix and TiVo. It offers instant access to almost 5,000 films for purchase or rental. (\$400, Alpha-man.com or Vudu.com)

home Styles

I'm Sure, It's Charmed

Accessorize wine glasses so you won't sip another's

The upside of every wine-and-cheese party? The chance to swill delicious fermented grape juice with friends. The downside? Losing your glass. This particular drunkard's affliction hobbles me more often than it does Tom, but there's an easy-enough solution to keep the his-and-hers stems separate: wine-glass charms.

These vino-vessel ID bracelets retail for \$12 to \$24 at online shops, but the homemade ones here set us back only a few bucks and about 20 minutes. Plus, picking your own beads means avoiding schmaltzy themes or tacky color schemes.

BUY BEADS

If each bracelet is going to be a distinct identifier for your dinner guests' glasses, a variety of hues is crucial. Try to find a selection of beads that look alike but vary slightly.

In two examples above, I added secondary beads. The silver balls unify the group of oval charms on the right, while cheerful stars on the left set differentiate the otherwise identical turtle beads.



LOOP IT UP

I was lucky enough to score a huge bag of beading hoops — flimsy rings you can open and shut to add beads or fit around wine-glass stems — at a craft warehouse a few years ago. Michaels of Alexandria told me it has a bag of assorted sizes for \$3, but you can also fairly easily make your own out of eye pins, which are straight wire pins with loops on the bottoms. Jewelry wire would work just as well, but using an eye pin saves you the trouble of making the tiny loop at the end of the ring.

If you're not using hoops, slide your chosen beads onto the eye pin, then use pliers to shape the wire into a circle.

The turtle and round, swirly beads proved to be a challenge: They were too big to fit on the rings lengthwise. So I threaded each onto a headpin (a wire with a blunt stopper at one end, as on the straight pins used in sewing). I then looped the remaining wire around the hoop and secured it by tightly wrapping the wire around itself. Pinch it hard with some pliers, and you're done.

shopping list

- → Six oval beads: \$2, A.C. Moore
- → Bag of 80 silver beads: \$1.67, A.C. Moore
- → Turtle beads: \$2, A.C. Moore
- → Star beads: 20 cents each, Beadazzled (Beadazzled.net)
- → Red, blue and green big beads: \$1 apiece, Beadazzled
- Two-inch eye pins: 50 cents apiece, Beadazzled; or beading hoops: \$3 for about 20, Michaels
- → Jewelry wire: \$3 for 30 feet
- → Head pins: \$1.25 for 25

Use the pliers to bend the end of the eye pin or hoop (the part doesn't end in a loop) so that ¼ inch of the tip is almost perpendicular to the circle. When inserted into the loop, that notched tip will fasten the pin around the glass.

For each charm to be a distinct identifier, a variety of colors is crucial.

CARE FOR YOUR CORK
Because we can't resist the crafting impulse, we used the remaining materials to create charms for the corks to cap the rare unfinished bottle.

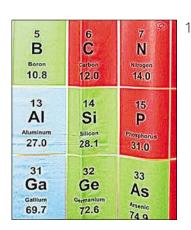
For the oval-shaped set, I strung a trio of beads on some jewelry wire and rigged that across the beading hoop. For the turtle set, I strung two silver balls on the hoop and used a star bead to fasten it together. And for the blue-green-red family, I strung some jewelry wire through a large blue bead.

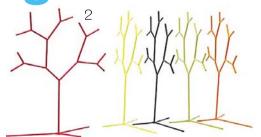
I used pliers to fasten each charm to a T-pin, which can be inserted into plastic and traditional corks. So, even when the bottle runs dry, the charm can be transferred to the next one — but your glass will stick right with you.



Julia Beizer and her fiance, Tom, guide newbies through basic home-improvement tasks in our pages a few times per month.

whatwebought







(i) Periodic Table Shower Curtain will make you cleaner and smarter. You can study CA while musing on the CAn! (\$30, Thinkgeek.com) (2) Mini metal trees hold necklaces and bracelets on a dresser. (\$5, Ikea) (3) 'Robot R&R' poster is one of many in artist Eric Joyner's robot-and-doughnut-centric repertoire. (medium \$25, large \$36, Ericjoyner.com) (4) Schylling's wind-up Martian toy looks a lot like an itty-bitty barbecue grill. (\$15, Fatbraintoys.com)





See mod movie interiors circa 1959 at a screening of the Joan Crawford flick "The Best of Everything," part of a "Bachelors, Secretaries and Spies" fest of stylish mid-century films. \$10. Feb. 13 at 6:30 p.m. National Building Museum, 40I F St. NW

Get tips on how to tile your bathroom or kitchen at a free clinic Feb. 9, II a.m.-noon. Home Depot, 6210 Seven Corners Ctr., Falls Church; 703-534-9580

Styles | fashion

Software States of the States

Ancient Egyptian queens, Wonder Woman and 1980s punkers all knew the style superpowers of cuff bracelets. Both tender and tough, such dramatic arm candy can zap a simple black dress from boring to bodacious or add an edge to jeans and a T-shirt. "The wrist is a really interesting part of the body," says New York jewelry designer Wendy Nichol. "Adding a stack of cuffs to it turns an outfit up a notch." Nichol's bold bracelets use snakeskin, leather and studs in a Chanel-goes-to-CBGB's way. Other designers whip up bangles and bands in wood, printed aluminum or even rubber, as in the case of Brooklyn's industrial-cool Steel Couture. Still, don't overdo the wristy business — too many bracelets says fortune teller, not fashionista. Jennier Renners

IONE Just snake it: Python skin meets gold-plated brass on a wild-yet-delicate bracelet by Wendy Nichol. It's subtle and small enough to pair with another skinny cuff or to wear alone to a conservative office. (\$187, Ravinstyle.com)

| three | Hand-dyed, hand-stamped leather stars in British Colombian artist Holly Wilson's woodsy armband, which would groove up a brown dress. Other styles feature birds, leaves and similar earthy motifs. (\$20, Hollyhawk.etsy.com)

| five | Purples, yellows and browns create an ethereal, tie-dye-like effect on Jane Adam's anodized aluminum cuff. She made it using a woodblock printing technique. (\$350, Jewelers' Werk Galerie, 3319 Cady's Alley NW; 202-337-3319)

| TWO | Just riveting when paired with a girly, three-quarter sleeve jacket or romantic blouse, Wendy Nichol's gold-plated cuff boasts a leather bow bolted in by rugged studs. (\$198, Ravinstyle.com)

| four | As stretchy as a Slinky, but far swankier, Claudia Hoppe's flexible 18-karat gold bracelet adds goddessy glam to cocktail frocks. (\$2,520, I Gorman Jewelers, 1133 20th St. NW; 202-775-8544; Igorman.com)

SIX Smacking of both medieval knights and Reagan-era Madonna, Steel Couture's rubber and metal cuff stretches to fit most arms—and the padlock heart makes it a Goth-cool choice for Valentine's Day. (\$54, Steelcouture.com)



cuff. Oversize and dramatic, it would impress Mr. Darcys with a bonnet required) with Allison Daniel's silver-plated cameo ruffled, strapless top. (\$98, Allisondanieldesigns.com)

sex number of canvas and leather. Its indie mood is perfectly

in tune with jeans and your Vampire Weekend T-shirt. (\$78,

Pilgrim, 3225 M St. NW; 202-703-203-2311)

—an openwork bracelet gives a dose of Old World charm to a Prague antique store — but with no gazillion-euro price tag Nine | Like an Art Nouveau piece you'd pick up in a tailored shirt or crisp jacket. (\$75, Pilgrim)

Allison Daniel's cuff makes wearing your heart on your sleeve **eleVen** | Equal parts biker chick and Victorian lady, seem hip, nothokey. (\$78, Allisondanieldesigns.com) thirteen | Chunky faux coral pyramids cap wooden tiles on a stretchy cuff. The budget price means you can scoop up an armfull to wear with a white sundress in warmer weather. (\$5.80, Forever 21)

| twelve | Didn't score any 1960s, Palm Beach braceclassic non-color combo looks best with solid, bright pieces | ten | Mod squad black and white is back for spring (it never goes away, really). A stretchy, enameled piece in the lets from Mom or Grandma? Fake a fine vintage find with —a red sweater, a cobalt blouse. (\$9.80, Forever 21)

J. Crew's enamel and turquoise bead beauty. It'd be particularly chic with a black tunic. (\$68, Jcrew.com)

J. Crew's mosaic and enamel stunner were real — so there's no need to fess up that you're sporting costume jewelry, not a fam-| fourteen | You'd swear the cabochon gems on ily heirloom. (\$150, Jcrew.com) **fifteen** | Big and bold, a super-thick patent leather Nordstrom, Fashion Centre at Pentagon City; 703-415-1121) bangle in Kelly green looks great alone — or over-the-top cool worn with a bunch of other hot-hued bracelets. (\$68,



on the cover

Is Conrad Valett's silver bracelet jewelry or art? We say both, particularly if you wear it with a short-sleeve blouse that shows off its sexy shape. (\$275, Jewelers' Werk Galerie, 3319 Cady's Alley NW, 202-337-3319)



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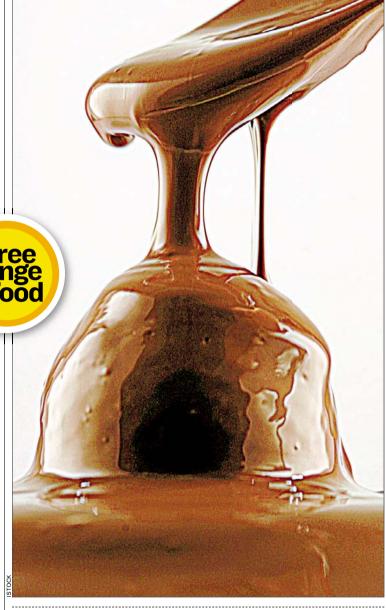
Surprise your sweetie with homemade chocolates

What can you suggest to use chocolate-wise for candy molds other than those disk-shaped melting chocolates they sell at Michael's? I'm looking to make richer treats for my co-workers.

Those discs are not always the best-quality chocolate. You can mold chocolates and make bark and other chocolate treats from any chocolate in bar form or sold in bulk. If you like dark chocolate look for chocolate labeled 70 percent or thereabouts — that means it has at least 70 percent cocoa solids. That should give you a rich taste. Just chop it up fine so it is about the size of the discs; that way, it will melt evenly.

I have tried several times to make hard caramel (a cookbook of mine has instructions on making caramel "cages"). Per its recipe, I boil the syrup until it starts to darken and then either put the pot into a pan of cool water, stir some boiling water into the syrup or add cream. Each time, my caramel turns into a brick almost immediately, and I am left candy-less, chipping at the pan for days. What am I doing wrong?

Making a caramel cage requires using only the burned sugar. You cannot get the caramel to solidify into strands if you add water or cream to it once it's a dark brown. Placing it in a larger pan of cold water will help stop the cooking and thicken it a bit so you can drizzle it onto your mold (whether that's an upturned bowl or another rounded and greased heat-safe object). But you must only dip it in the cold water briefly. If you sit it in there and let it be, it will firm up too quickly and you won't be able to work with it, as you have found out. After it starts to cool and thicken, use a fork to drizzle the burnt sugar over the mold. Once it's hard, pull it



off and, voila, a caramel cage.

I recently took a stab at making chocolate truffles. I neglected to research how to properly temper chocolate. I went through five bags of chocolate because I didn't realize water causes chocolate to seize. So, now I have a Ziploc bag full of seized chocolate in the freezer. Is there a way to salvage it?

Unfortunately, once the chocolate has indeed broken into those icky threads and that liquid, you can save it — sometimes — by adding little bits of cream to the mixture as you stir it over barely simmering water. This will work if the humidity's right, the chocolate hasn't retained

too much residual moisture and the gods are smiling.

But once frozen? We suggest you put in a pan with milk and sugar for your usual chocolate pudding recipe — and make a rather grainier version of pudding. Same for pastry cream and hot cocoa. Even ice cream! No fine chocolate candies, but the extra fat in any of these will help return the chocolate to some sort of good state. One final warning: Don't bake with it.



The staff of the Washington Post Food section goes Free Range on Food every Wed-

nesday at 1 p.m. at washingtonpost.com/ liveonline. Catch up on recipes, cooking trends and more.



A Hot Crush

It's a miracle that you met that hot new guy on Eharmony, what with all the cute dudes out of town working advance on the Obama campaign and all. Celebrate such divine romantic luck by giving him a Mexican milagro charm cast in dark or milk chocolate (six 3-inchhearts, \$42-\$46, large heart \$25-\$29, Chocolatedeities.com). Or, from the same wild Web site, choose another cocoa deity representing your burgeoning affair, like a white chocolate sculpture of the Hindu god Ganesh (\$28) to remind him of your shared passion for chicken curry.

On a Rocky Road

It seemed like she was your perfect girl, until her obsession with "The Hills" became clear and her creepy ex-boyfriend started coming on all your dates. Still, you're hoping this is just a rough patch. The surface of J. Chocolatier's Bourbon Pecan Toffee made by local confection diva Jane Morris - may be as bumpy as your connection, but its combo of dark chocolate, English toffee and toasted nuts could permanently win over the most fickle paramour. (\$24 for 12 ounces, Jchocolatier.com or Artfully Chocolate, 116 E. Del Ray Ave., Alexandria; 703-635-7917)

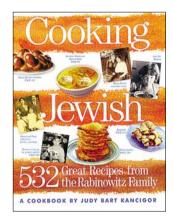
Get on the Us Bus

Mutual interests like "Battlestar Galactica" and vintage vacuum-cleaner collecting? Check. Similar politics — you both heart Ron Paul? Check. A love life that'd make rabbits jealous? Check. If you've found The One, you can exchange stuff in Tiffany packaging, or just go for Charles Chocolates' box of delicately flavored raspberry-, passion fruitand mojito-flavored bonbons (\$60, Charleschocolates.com). The box is edible, too, and if you steal a truffle and replace it with say, a 2-carat brilliant-cut, your Valentine probably won't mind.

Break Up, Bite Me

She dumped you at your sister's wedding. You had to dance with your mom instead of your hot girlfriend. She must pay. Dead flowers and nasty e-mails aren't mature, but a couple of chocolate-covered crickets (\$24 for six, Flukerfarms.com) sends the message that she doesn't have your heart to squash like a pathetic insect anymore. And if she wears the dorky "I Ate a Bug Club" button that comes with these crispy, less-vile-than-expected "treats," no one else will date her anyhow.

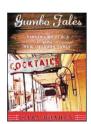
mixed media



Challah Back Gals

■ When Judy Bart Kancigor flipped through her mother's handwritten recipe book and found the page for Aunt Sally's ultra-extra-special noodle pudding, the note beside it read: "If this won't give them a gall bladder attack, nothing will." Find out whether that's a desirable thing in "Cooking Jewish: 532 Great Recipes from the Rabinowitz Family' (\$20, Workman), Kancigor's scrapbook/ cookbook with scrumptious bites, photos and anecdotes from every branch of her family tree. There are plenty of dishes to make Mama proud — rugelach, borscht, brisket - as well as some that don't quite fit the stereotype of the title. But, hey, it's not just goyim whose mouths water at the sound of arroz con pollo and savory steamed dumplings. VICKY HAL-LETT (EXPRESS)

Bourbon Street Eats



Even if everything else on the menu is given paper plate and plastic utensil treatment, steaming gumbo gets served in china bowls. That's what Sara

Roahen learned after moving from her native Wisconsin to the creole culinary capital. Her "Gumbo Tales: Finding My Place at the New Orleans Table" (\$25, Norton) is partially a memoir of her experiences, but it's more a celebration of the ingredients and dishes that made her life in Louisiana a more fulfilling (and filling!) one. From po'boys and king cake to banh mi and pho, she revels in traditions far more colorful than any string of beads, v H





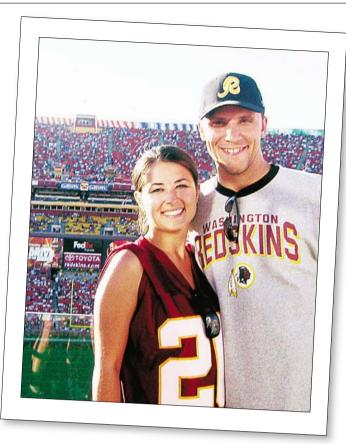


Thomas Bennett, Heather Manley

Tom, 39, is a systems specialist. Heather, 35, is a biologist. They will live in Centreville.

- The Main Event: An informal destination wedding in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, on Jan. 9. Heather walked down the aisle to the syncopated rhythms of "The Wedding March" on steel-pandrums
- How They Met: At the American Society for Microbiology Biodefense Conference in D.C.

- First Date: They talked on the phone for a month before he asked her out. Once a dinner datewas scheduled, Heather was so sick she had to bail. Another date was planned, but the still-ill Heather had to cancel again. Undeterred, Tom "offered to stop by with food," says Heather. "So, our first date was with Carrabba's takeout, and I was in pajamas."
- How He Proposed: As Heather primped before going to her birthday dinner with pals, "Tom came up to the bedroom. I was flossing my teeth when he got down on one knee. I thought, 'Put the floss down."
- Pet Names: "I usually use 'love' and the name of an animal," says Tom. "Like 'Love Squirrel, Love Turtle and Love Chipmunk."
- The Dress: "I wore a silk dress from J. Crew that I got brand-new on eBay for \$60," says Heather. "I nearly got my veil [also new] for \$1, but someone outbid me, and I had to pay a whopping \$5.50."
- When It Hit: "I knew he was sticking around when he went with me to the Mayo Clinic for a week."
- Weird Family Traditions: "Tom keeps saying something about me taking his last name."



Tom Tom? Believe It!

Call it love at first sip: When **DIANA ANDANUT** and **JASON BURKETT** met at Tom Tom in Adams Morgan in July 2003, both were slurping Long Island iced teas. It turns out they had more in common than their mixed-drink preferences — like enjoyment of no-holds-barred romantic scenarios. While on a business trip in San Diego, Jason flew Diana to the California coast to meet him — for their first date. "He swept me off my feet," she says. "I showed her the Pacific Coast Highway all the way to Los Angeles," says Jason. The grand overtures continued when Jason proposed on the Maid of the Mist in Niagara Falls in May 2005: "It was romantic and wet, as we were being sprayed by water mist and wearing funny blue ponchos," he says. The couple will exchange vows Aug. 16 at the same D.C. church where Jason's grandparents wed. Diana, 25, is a PR specialist. Jason, 29, is an IT consultant. They live in Alexandria.



Stephen Doyle, Ruth McCalmon

Steve, 22, is a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. Ruth, 25, is an account manager at a PR firm. They will live in Tacoma, Wash.

- The Main Event: A semiformal ceremony at Fort Myer followed by a reception in D.C. on May 10. "My parents were married in the same chapel, and I was baptized there," says Steve.
- How They Met: At the 2006 Army-Navy football game in Philly.
- First Date: Ruth was Steve's date to the West Point 500th Night Ball, which celebrates 500 days until graduation.
- How He Proposed: On the weekend of Ruth's birthday, Steve dropped to one knee in front of a picturesque pond.
- Stupidest Fight: "We got into an argument about the National Guard in the Kent State shootings," says Steve. "We realized after 20 minutes that we were arguing the same point."
- Pet Names: "I call her 'Booger."
- Making It Unique: Since "Steve and I both moved around a lot while growing up, we're naming each table at the reception after a place each of us has lived," says Ruth.
- Wedding Jitters: Ruth is worried their "guests will get lost driving from Arlington to downtown D.C. If you miss one exit, you're done!"



Getting Married? If you'd like to see your wedding or commitment ceremony in B.I.O., send your favorite informal photograph (wacky is fine, but please don't send a formal engagement shot), plus your names and ceremony date to weddings@readexpress.com. Please contact us at least one month before your wedding. We'll get back to you with some questions as your big day approaches.







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e "Huckabee's got bad teeth, but he's trying to work that."





TOUT TOUT THE TOWN

Which candidate most needs a makeover?

BUSBOYS & POETS | U STREET | FEB. 5

I. "McCain. Give him some life when he talks. He looks like a dead man," Aimilios Chatzinikolaou, left. "Romney is fake and plastic-y. He needs to lay off the hair gel," Aakash Thakkar, right, with Ami Thakkar. 2. "Hillary. That hair! Those suits!" Candice Johnson, left. "Hillary. She's got that 'candidate hair,'" Vernica Britton. 3. "Romney's hair. Make it look more natural, less plastic. He looks like a Ken doll," Josh Gilliland, left, with Phil Olaya. 4. "I'd tell Barack to eat more. Cut the cardio and eat more potatoes and grits," Glenn Cassis. "Hillary needs a personality makeover. She's relying too much on her gender and it isn't genuine," Fade Adetosoy. 5. "Huckabee's got bad teeth, but he's trying to work that as part of his charm," Dustin Wilkes, left, with Damien Ma. 6. "Kucinich needs to do something about his height. Maybe a Mr. T-style makeover. He needs to bulk up," Ed Kenny, left. "Huckabee needs Invisalign," Greg Ordun. 7. "I'd like to see Obama be a little more flavorful with his suits — less Brooks Brothers, more Stacy Adams," Kevin Pitts. 8. "Hillary needs a softer look. Her clothes are too matronly," Marcia Occomy. 9. "I'd send Kucinich to Edwards' hairstylist," Julia Klaiber. 10. "Kucinich needs to incorporate some color into his wardrobe," Belvey Russ. Bryn Lansdowne



o "I'd like to see Obama be a little more flavorful with his suits."







<mark>0 "I'd send Kucinich</mark> to John Edwards' hairstylist."

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